

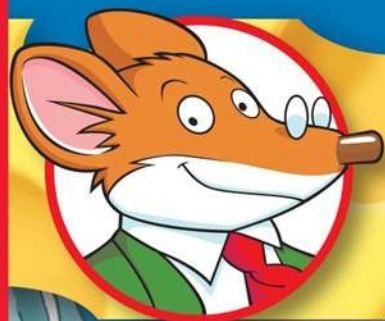


Geronimo Stilton

FIELD TRIP TO NIAGARA FALLS



SCHOLASTIC



Geronimo Stilton

FIELD TRIP TO NIAGARA FALLS



SCHOLASTIC

Dear mouse friends,
Welcome to the world of



Geronimo Stilton



THE RODENT'S GAZETTE EDITORIAL STAFF





Geronimo Stilton

A learned and brainy
mouse; editor of
The Rodent's Gazette



Thea Stilton

Geronimo's sister and
special correspondent at
The Rodent's Gazette



Trap Stilton

An awful joker;
Geronimo's cousin and
owner of the store
Cheap Junk for Less



Benjamin Stilton

A sweet and loving
nine-year-old mouse;
Geronimo's favorite
nephew

Geronimo Stilton

FIELD TRIP TO NIAGARA FALLS



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Based on an original idea by Elisabetta Dami.

www.geronimostilton.com

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OH, HOW I HATE BEING LATE!

“Rain, rain, go away.” It was the middle of the night. I was in my comfy, cozy bed, trying to sleep. But the rain was beating on my window like a crazed woodpecker.

I fell asleep dreaming about birds and pounding ocean waves and huge crashing **waterfalls**.

It rained the whole night. The next morning, I woke up exhausted. I stared at





the clock on my bedside table. Holey cheese! I was **late**! Oh, how I hate being **late**!

I hurled myself into the bathroom. I turned on the shower while brushing my teeth. I combed my whiskers while pulling on my pants. I chugged down my coffee while racing out the door. Rats!

I ran at **BREAKNECK SPEED** to my aunt Sweetfur's house. That is where my little nephew Benjamin lives. I had promised to take him to school today.

Benjamin giggled when he saw me. I had forgotten to button my pants. And my fur was sticking up all over the place.

On the way to school, we passed by my office. I run the most **FAMOUS** daily newspaper on Mouse Island. It is called *The Rodent's Gazette*.



I turned on
the shower
while
brushing
my teeth!



I combed my whiskers
while pulling on
my pants!



I chugged down
my coffee while
racing out
the door!



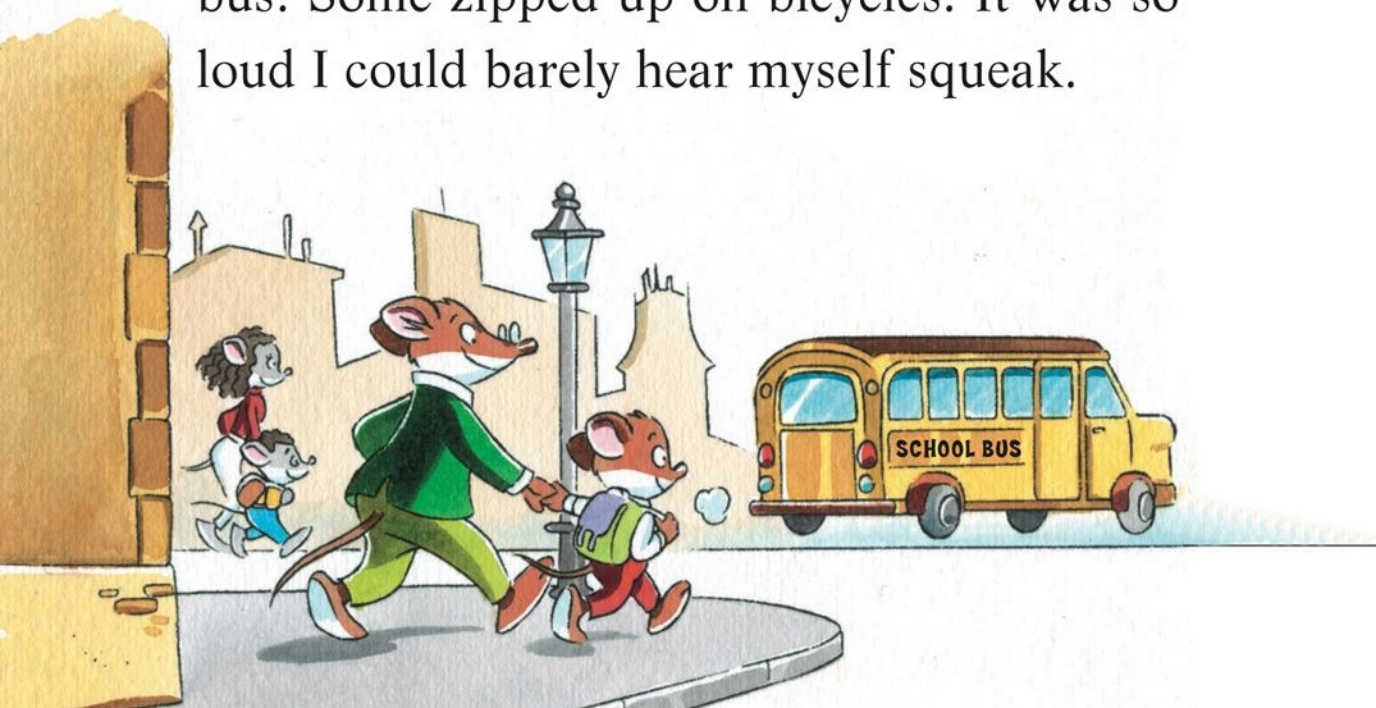


Benjamin tugged on my paw. “Uncle, may I take my friends to visit you at the *Gazette* sometime?” he asked.

I **smiled**. My nephew was such a sweet and smart little mouse. Maybe someday he would follow in my pawsteps and run a newspaper, too.

“Of course, dear nephew,” I said.

Finally, we arrived at Benjamin’s school. **WHAT A ZOO!** Little rodents were running everywhere. Some held on to their parents’ paws. Others tumbled off the school bus. Some zipped up on bicycles. It was so loud I could barely hear myself squeak.





Just then, the school bell rang.

Rrrrrrrrrrrriiiiiinnnnnnnnnnnnnnnnngggg!

I nearly jumped out of my fur. And that was when I spotted a **blonde** rodent. No, she wasn't just any blonde rodent. She had **GORGEOUS** fur. She had a **SWEET** smile. And she had **blue** eyes the color of a clear summer sky.

"Good morning, I am **Miss Angel Paws**, Benjamin's teacher," she said.

I took a step toward her. But before I could shake her paw, I tripped over my tail. I landed snout first in the dirt.



BENJAMIN'S FRIENDS

Liza



Punk Rat



Kenny



Kay



Scampers



Mohamed



Sam



Carmen



Shannon



Malcolm



David



Esmeralda



Lucy



Beth



Laura



Susan



Steven



Antonia



Tim



Sakura

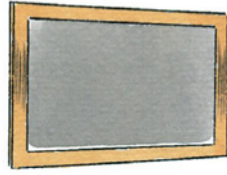


Benjamin



Oliver





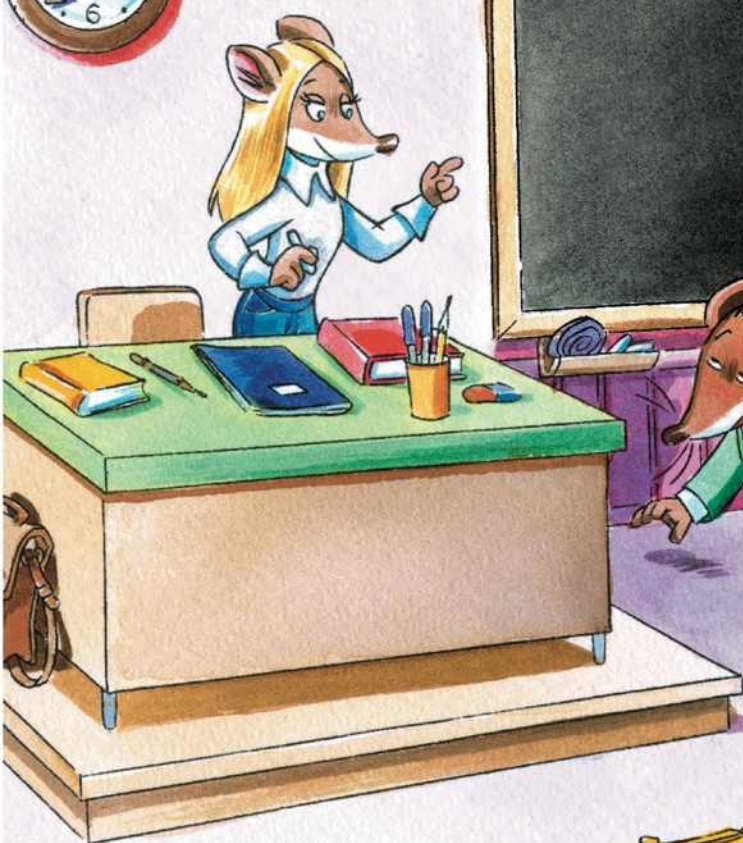
DON'T WORRY ABOUT A THING!

I turned to run away with my tail between my legs. I was so **embarrassed**. Why did I have to make a fool of myself in front of such a **PRETTY** mouse?

“Today, we’ll decide where to go on our field trip,” I heard Miss Angel Paws announce.

Hmm. Field trip. Suddenly, I had an idea. Maybe the class could come visit me at *The Rodent’s Gazette*. Then the teacher would see I wasn’t just a clumsy, dim-witted mouse. I strode back into the classroom.

“Oh, good, Mr. Stilton, you haven’t left. I wanted to ask for *your advice*,” Miss Angel Paws squeaked. “Do you think this is a good place to go on a field trip?”

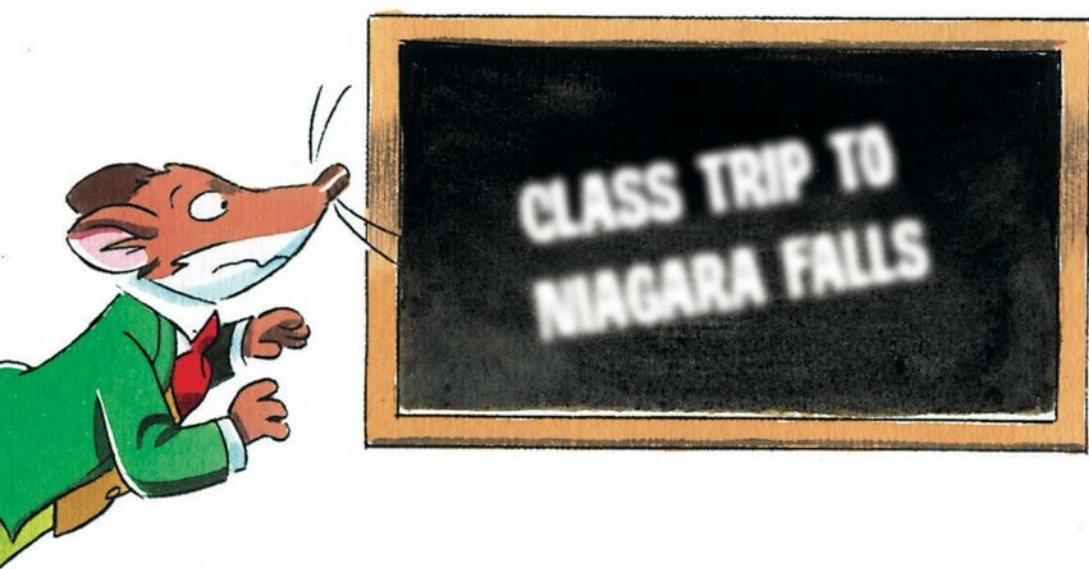




She began writing something on the blackboard. I would love to tell you what it said, but I couldn't read it. No, it wasn't written in ancient Squeakeeze. I just couldn't **see** a thing. That's because the class bully, Punk Rat, **had tripped me** on my way in. I had lost my eyeglasses.

The teacher **tapped** on the board. "What do you think, Mr. Stilton?" she repeated.

I **squinted** desperately at the board. I felt like one of the three blind mice.





Everything looked **FOGGY**. Then I **thought** of something. Maybe Miss Angel Paws wanted to visit *The Rodent's Gazette*. Maybe that's what she had written on the board. Yes, that had to be it, I decided. That's why she wanted my advice.

"I think that's a great idea!" I said to the teacher. "I would love to take you there!"

Miss Angel Paws was amazed. "**Really, Mr. Stilton?**" she squeaked.

"Of course," I said. "And don't call me **Mr. Stilton**.... Call me **Geronimo!**"

"But who will pay for it? When can we go? Don't you have to work?" asked the teacher.

"Don't worry about a thing," I told her. "I can take a little time off. **You will all be my guests.** We can go today *if you'd like.*"

The teacher squealed with delight. She clapped her paws together. "Guess what,



class? Mr. Stilton—I mean Geronimo—has volunteered to take all of us to *Niagara Falls* for a whole week!” she announced. “We’ll leave today!”

The class **CHEERED**.

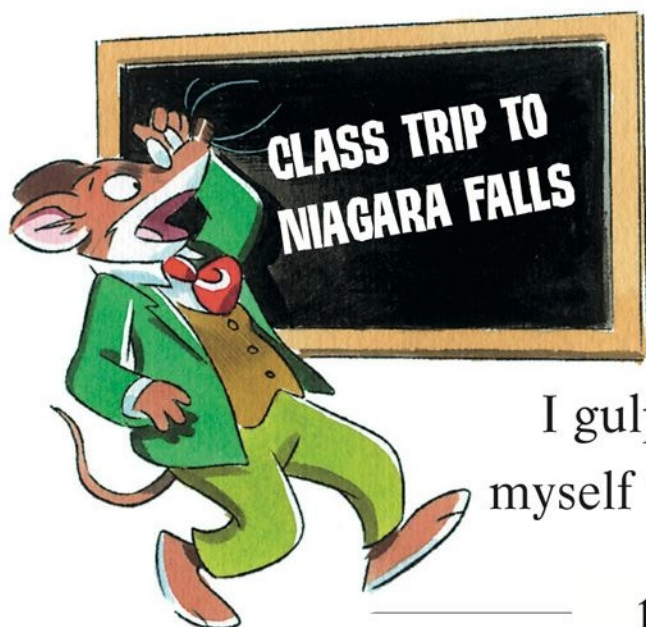
“**Hooray!** We’re going to Niagara Falls! Thank you, Mr. Stilton!” they cried.

I blinked.

“**Niagara Falls?**”

Punk Rat pulled at one of my whiskers.

“Of course. Can’t you read? Look at the blackboard,” he smirked, handing me my



glasses. I put them on. I stared at the blackboard. It read **CLASS TRIP TO NIAGARA FALLS.**

I gulped. Oh, how did I get myself into **such a mess?**



The teacher was already calling the travel agency. “Yes, twenty-two students, a teacher, and Geronimo Stilton. We need **twenty-four** round-trip tickets to Niagara Falls,” she squeaked into the phone.

What could I do? The class was so **excited** they could hardly sit still.

With a sigh, I took out my credit card. It’s a **TOP MOUSE Diamond-Plus-Super-Deluxe-Extra-Supreme-Gold Card**. It was a good thing I had it. This trip was going to **cost** me more than my two-year subscription to the Cheese-of-the-Month Club!

After booking our trip, the teacher waved a yellow notebook in the air.

“Class, this notebook will be our **TRAVEL JOURNAL**,” she announced. “We will write in it every day. That way, we will never forget this wonderful trip.”



THIS IS
HOW TO KEEP
A TRAVEL
JOURNAL.



TODAY IS:

WE PLAN TO VISIT:

THE WEATHER IS:

☐☐☐

WE SAW:

.....



WE REALLY ENJOYED:

.....

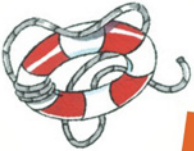
WE ATE:



.....

WE LEARNED:

SURPRISES:



.....

Paste a
photo of
this day
here!

THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN AT:

.....



ARE WE THERE YET?

Do you know how to get to Niagara Falls? Let me tell you. The falls are located at the border of the United States and Canada. They are very far from Mouse Island. The flight was the longest one of my life. Well, OK, maybe it wasn't the longest, but it was the **WORST**. That's because ...



Scampers spilled orange juice on my computer ...



Sakura smeared ice cream on my tie ...



David pulled out one of my whiskers ...

ARE WE



THERE YET?

Scampers spilled **orange juice** on my computer.

Sakura smeared **ice cream** on my tie.

David pulled out one of my whiskers.

Carmen knocked down my suitcase.

Esmeralda **squeaked my ear off**.

Tim asked me **317** times, “Are we there yet?”

The whole time I tried desperately to read my book on Niagara Falls.

Tim asked me 317 times ...



Carmen knocked down my suitcase ...



Esmeralda squeaked and squeaked ...





NIAGARA FALLS



Located at the border of the United States (on the east) and Canada (on the west), the falls are formed by the waters of the Niagara River. During the journey from Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, the river suddenly drops more than 180 feet to the level of the riverbed, forming falls unique in their power.

There are actually two different falls at Niagara. On the Canadian side there is Horseshoe Falls, approximately 2,500 feet wide, while Rainbow Falls, on the American side, is approximately 1,000 feet in width.

In the winter, the river freezes, but the falls do not because they are in continuous movement.

Every second, more than 790,000 gallons of water fall!

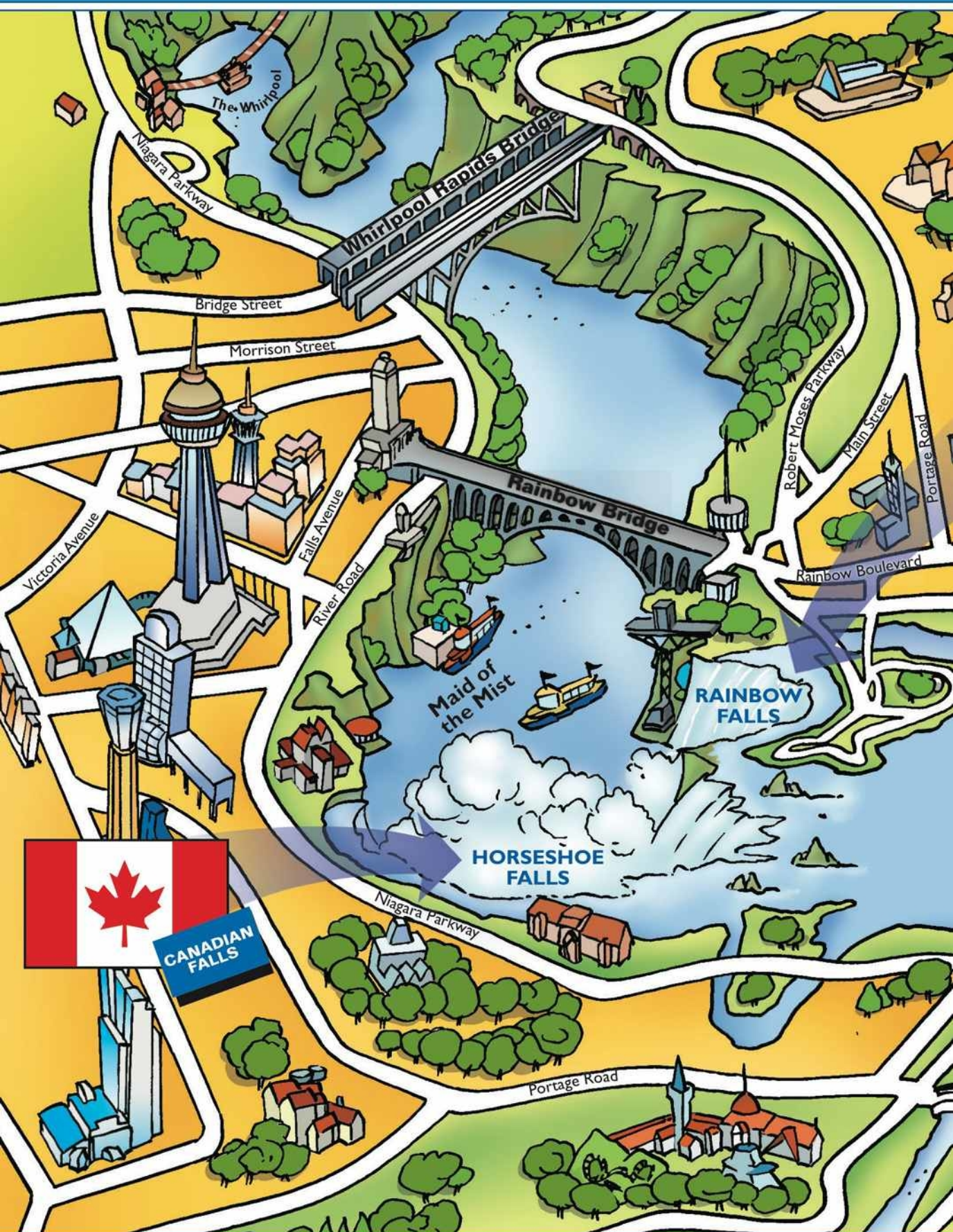
Niagara Falls is also a precious source of electrical energy. Approximately 50 percent of the water (at night, 75 percent) is directed to the hydroelectric power plants that supply the United States and Canada with electricity.

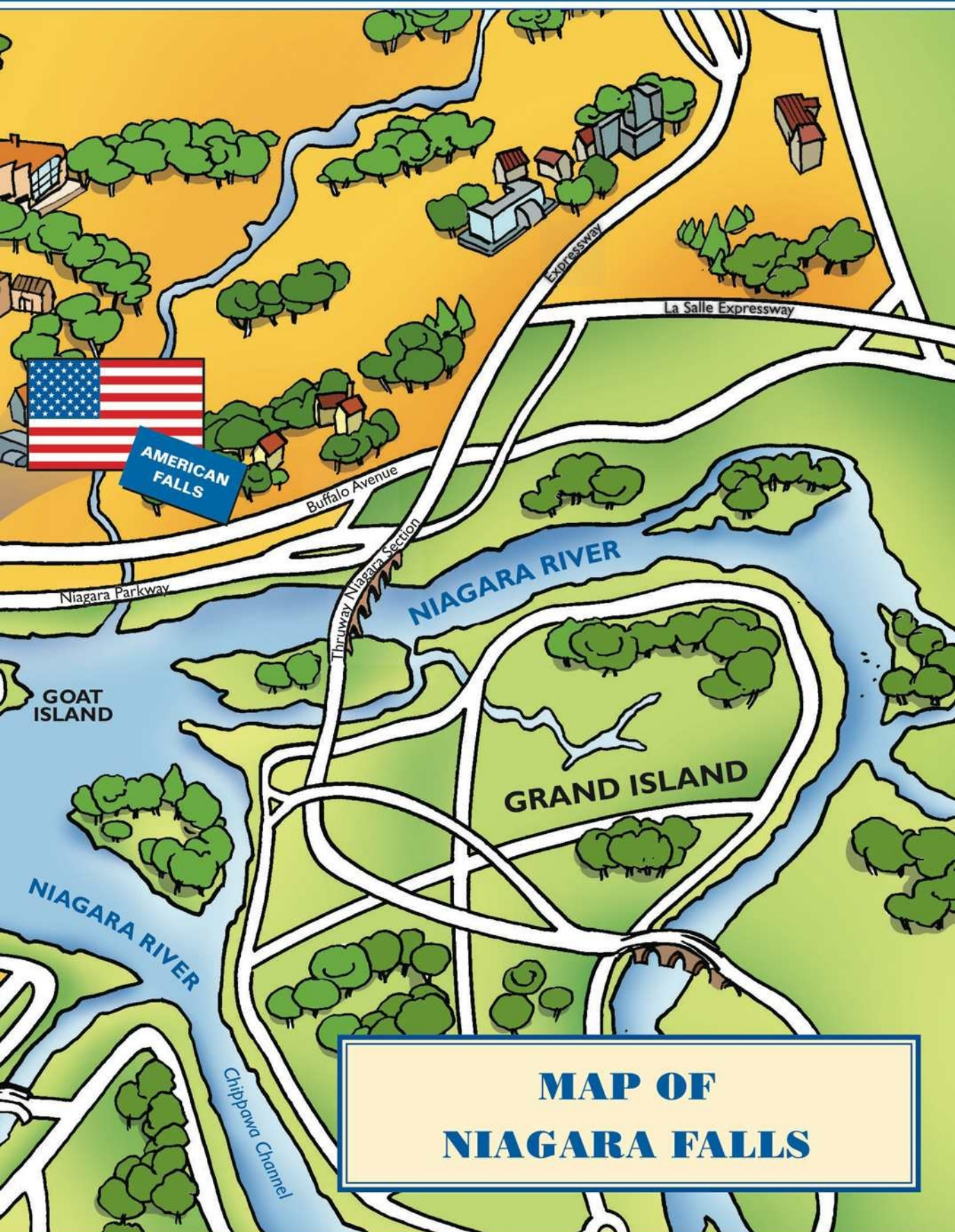


But the power of the water is creating a problem for the future of the falls. In the past 12,000 years, the water running over the rocks has eroded them and shifted the falls by almost seven miles.









MAP OF NIAGARA FALLS



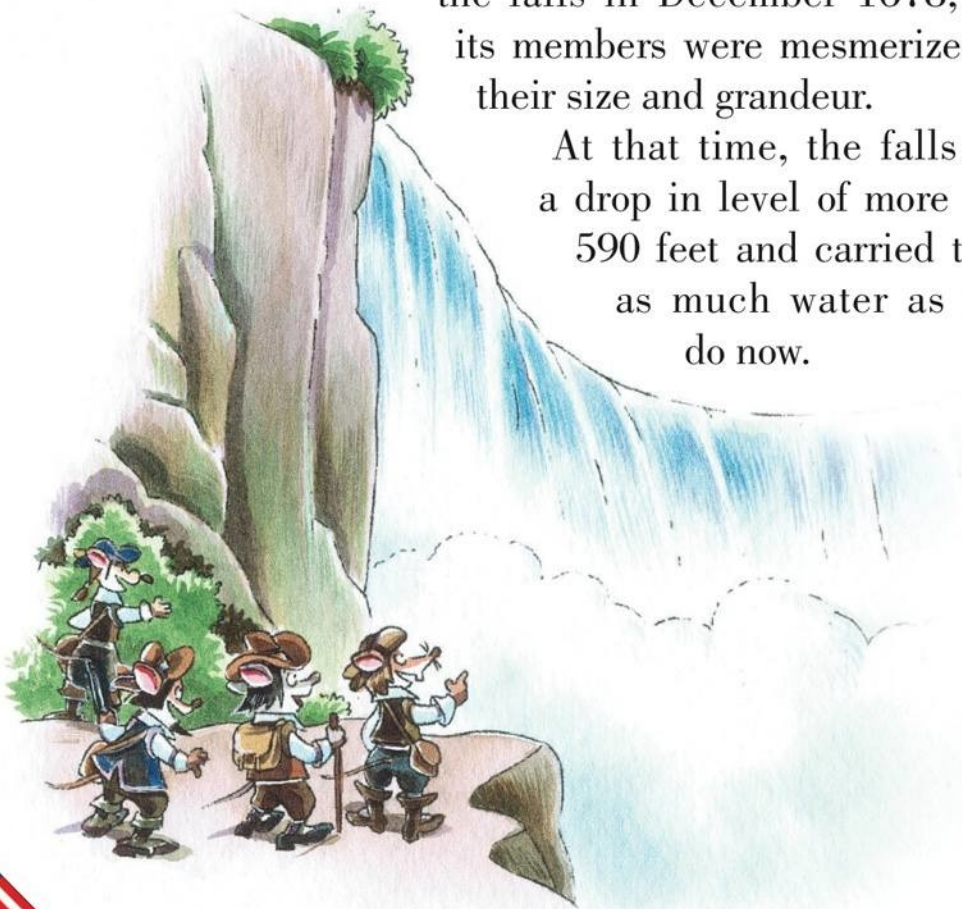
A BIT OF HISTORY . . .



THE ERA OF EXPLORATION

For centuries, only the Native Americans who lived at what is now the border between the United States and Canada knew about the spectacular falls. The first official news of their existence dates back to the second half of the sixteenth century. The man who made them famous was Louis Hennepin, a Belgian monk who was part of an expedition organized by the French explorer René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle. The expedition arrived at the falls in December 1678, and its members were mesmerized by their size and grandeur.

At that time, the falls had a drop in level of more than 590 feet and carried twice as much water as they do now.





THE FIRST TOURISTS

Tourism was slow to arrive. One of the first important visits occurred in 1791, when the duke of Kent (father of the future Queen Victoria of England) stayed at the

only building in the area: a small wooden hut!

The first groups of tourists began arriving during the mid-1800s. The falls continued to attract important guests, such as Jerome Bonaparte, brother of the famous Napoleon. He came from New Orleans on his honeymoon. From that moment on, Niagara Falls became a popular destination for couples on their honeymoon.





EVERYONE, EXCEPT ME!

Just before our **plane** landed, the captain made an announcement.



“**Attention**, rodents: We are now passing over the famous Niagara Falls. Take a look out your window if you would like to see a

truly spectacular view of the falls,” he advised.

Everyone wanted to see the falls.

Everyone leaped to the window.

Everyone saw the spectacular view.

EXCEPT ME! EXCEPT ME! EXCEPT ME! EXCEPT ME!
EXCEPT ME!



I was being suffocated by a throng of screaming, jumping mouselets. They had **PRESSED** themselves up against my window. I couldn't move. I couldn't breathe. I couldn't see a thing!

Finally, the plane landed. We were in Toronto, Canada. From there, we climbed on a **bus**. We rode on the bus for about **an hour and a half**. Then we arrived at the falls.



As we pulled up, the driver made an announcement: “We have now reached the famouse Niagara Falls. Look out your window if you would like to see a truly spectacular view of the falls,” he said.



Everyone wanted to see the falls.

Everyone leaped to the window.

Everyone saw the spectacular view.

EXCEPT ME! EXCEPT ME! EXCEPT ME! EXCEPT ME!

A throng of **screaming** mouselets was

EVERYONE,



EXCEPT ME!

crawling all over me. They **plastered** themselves up against my window. I couldn't move. I couldn't breathe. I couldn't see a thing!

The bus stopped. I got off. The **ROARING SOUND** of the falls was incredible.

I tried to take a picture.

Everyone wanted to take a picture of the falls.

Everyone got his or her camera ready.

Everyone snapped away at the falls.

EXCEPT ME!

Oh, if only I could get away from those **screaming** mouselets. They were all over me! I couldn't move. I couldn't breathe.

I couldn't see a thing!

The bus took us to the city of Niagara Falls on the lake. It was already dark.





I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO SET UP A TENT!

What a day! I was **tired**. I was **hungry**.

I **STUMBLER** off the bus. I couldn't wait to sink into a nice **SOFT** bed. I couldn't wait to put on my fluffy cat-fur slippers. I couldn't wait to order from room service.

"Is the hotel nearby?" I yawned. "I'm pooped."

Miss Angel Paws looked shocked.

"Hotel? Why, Mr. Geronimo, we have come to enjoy the great outdoors. We're not going to a hotel. We're going to **CAMP OUT**," she squeaked.

My eyes opened wide. I looked around. Miss Angel Paws wasn't joking. We were standing in the middle of the wilderness!



Did I mention I'm not much of an outdoor mouse?

"Um, yes, well, who's going to set up the tents?" I stammered.

Miss Angel Paws rolled her eyes.

"You are, of course, Mr. Geronimo," she said.

I made a **quick** calculation: There were **twenty-four** of us. Each tent would hold **four** mice. That meant I had to set up **six** tents for the little mice. Then we would need **one** tent for me and **one** for **Miss Angel Paws**. Plus, we needed **one** big tent for all of us to eat breakfast in.

Holey cheese! I couldn't set up **nine tents!**

Just then, the little mice began whining.
"Come on! We're tired!"

I couldn't make heads or tails of the tents.

I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO SET UP A TENT!





I set up one tent inside out. I zipped myself up in another and couldn't get out. Then I whacked my paw with a hammer.

"I give up!" I **screeched**.

Did I mention I'm not much of an outdoor mouse? I sat down on a rock. I took off my glasses so I could **SOB FREELY**. "**Help! I**

Just then, my little nephew Benjamin whispered in my ear.

"Call Aunt Thea. She always knows what to do," he suggested.



I dried my tears. "Good idea," I agreed. **I guess you could say my sister, Thea, is the opposite of me. She loves a challenge.**

A half hour later, after I talked to Thea on the phone, all of the tents were ready.

"**Hooray!**" yelled the little mice.

"Isn't it **great** sleeping in a tent, Mr. Geronimo?" Miss Angel Paws said.

can't do this!"

THE TENT

HOW TO SET UP A TENT

1



Lay the tent flat and stake the corners.

2



Assemble the frame by connecting the poles, and hook the tent to the frame.

3



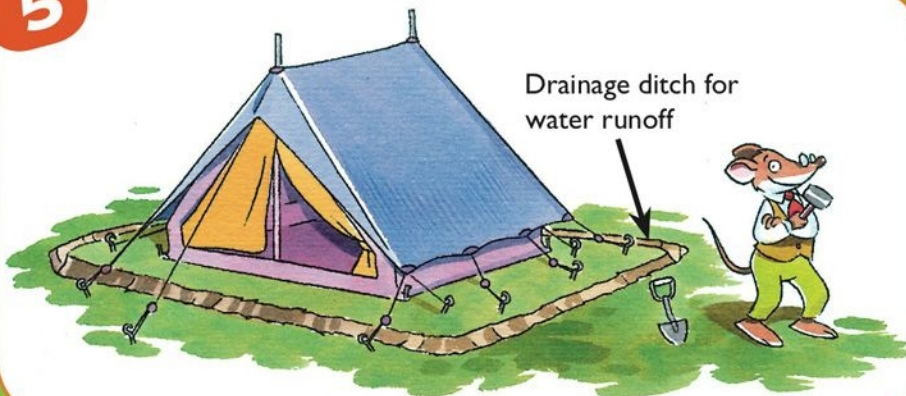
Pull the lateral ropes and stabilize the tent by staking the ropes.

4



Mount the rain tarp and attach it well with the stakes.

5



Dig a drainage ditch around the tent. You'll need it in case of rain.

Where to Set Up a Tent



NO



NO



NO



YES

Choose a flat area or one on a gentle slope that is well protected from the wind.



I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO COOK AT A CAMPSITE!

I was so tired I could only nod. Then I heard a low grumble. Was it a bear? Was it a fox? Was it a **RAVENOUS**, rodent-eating monster? No, it was just my tummy. I was starving!

“So, **who will do the cooking?**” I asked.

“Why, you will, of course, Mr. Geronimo,” Miss Angel Paws **said**.





The little mice began screaming.

“COME ON! We’re starving!” they whined.

I sighed. I trudged to the brook to get some **water**. But on the way back, I tripped. The water flew out of the bucket.

I decided to get the **FIRE** started. But the wood was too damp. It would not light.

I went to get some more wood and accidentally stepped on the egg carton. **CRUNCH!**

Then I noticed an army of ants. They were devouring all of the bread.

“I give up!” I squeaked. **Did I mention I’m not much of an outdoor mouse?**

“Try calling Aunt Thea again,” Benjamin whispered. “She’ll know what to do.”

A half hour later, the fire was ready.

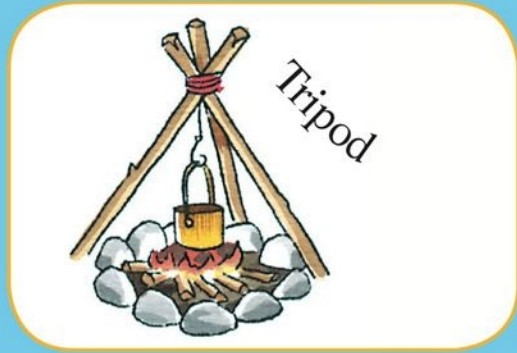
Now if I could just get the ants off the bread....

THE FIRE

How to Cook OUTDOORS



Before you light a fire, find out the wind's direction. Always be aware of the danger of fires! Keep a bucket of water nearby to put out the fire and always get help from an adult.

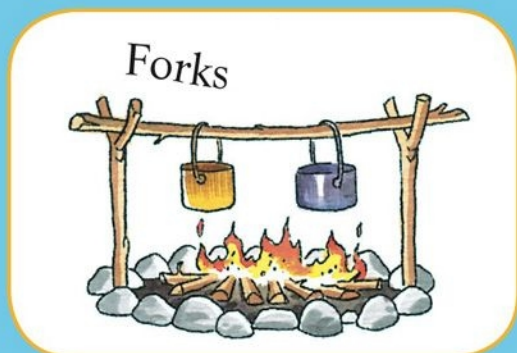


Bind three wooden poles together. Then hang a pot on a chain that has been secured at the top of the poles.

Flat rocks

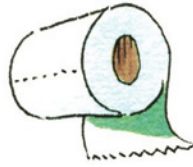


Arrange several clean, flat rocks so they are heated by a fire underneath. You can cook eggs, fish, or meat on top of them.



Arrange two forked sticks across from each other on either side of the fire. Hang the pots on a strong piece of wood, and then place each end of the wood in the forks.

**Never Leave
Fires Unattended!**



COME ON! WE HAVE TO GO!

After we ate, I fell asleep with my snout in my plate. I **woke up** with a start.

“Psst, psst, Mr. Geronimo!” a voice called.

It was **Miss Angel Paws**.

“Mr. Geronimo, you, um, forgot to set up a bathroom,” she whispered.

I paled. A bathroom?

“come on! we have to go!” the little mice squeaked.

This time, I knew exactly what to do. I called my sister. I wasn’t proud. I was desperate. After all, who knew how to set up a bathroom outdoors?

Of course, my sister figured it out.



Half an hour later, the bathroom was finished. And so was I. I crawled into my sleeping bag and slept like a ten-ton brick of stale cheese. Even a starving mouse couldn't have moved me.

Ronfff...bzzz...ronfff...bzzz...ronfff...

THE TOILET

HOW TO MAKE A BATHROOM

Toilet



1. Dig a hole. Leave a big pile of dirt next to the hole. After each use, throw some piled-up dirt into the hole.

2.



2. Use some wooden poles and a tarp to build a screen around the toilet.

Shower



3. Build a tripod. Hang a bucket with water to use as a makeshift shower.

Sink



4. Build another tripod. Place a bowl on top to wash your paws and snout.



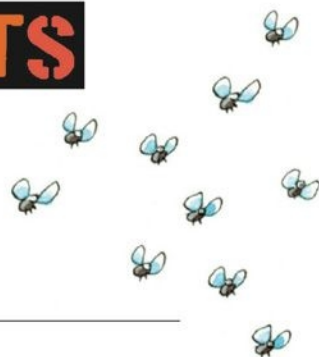
WHAT A STINK! WHAT A SMELL! WHAT A STENCH!

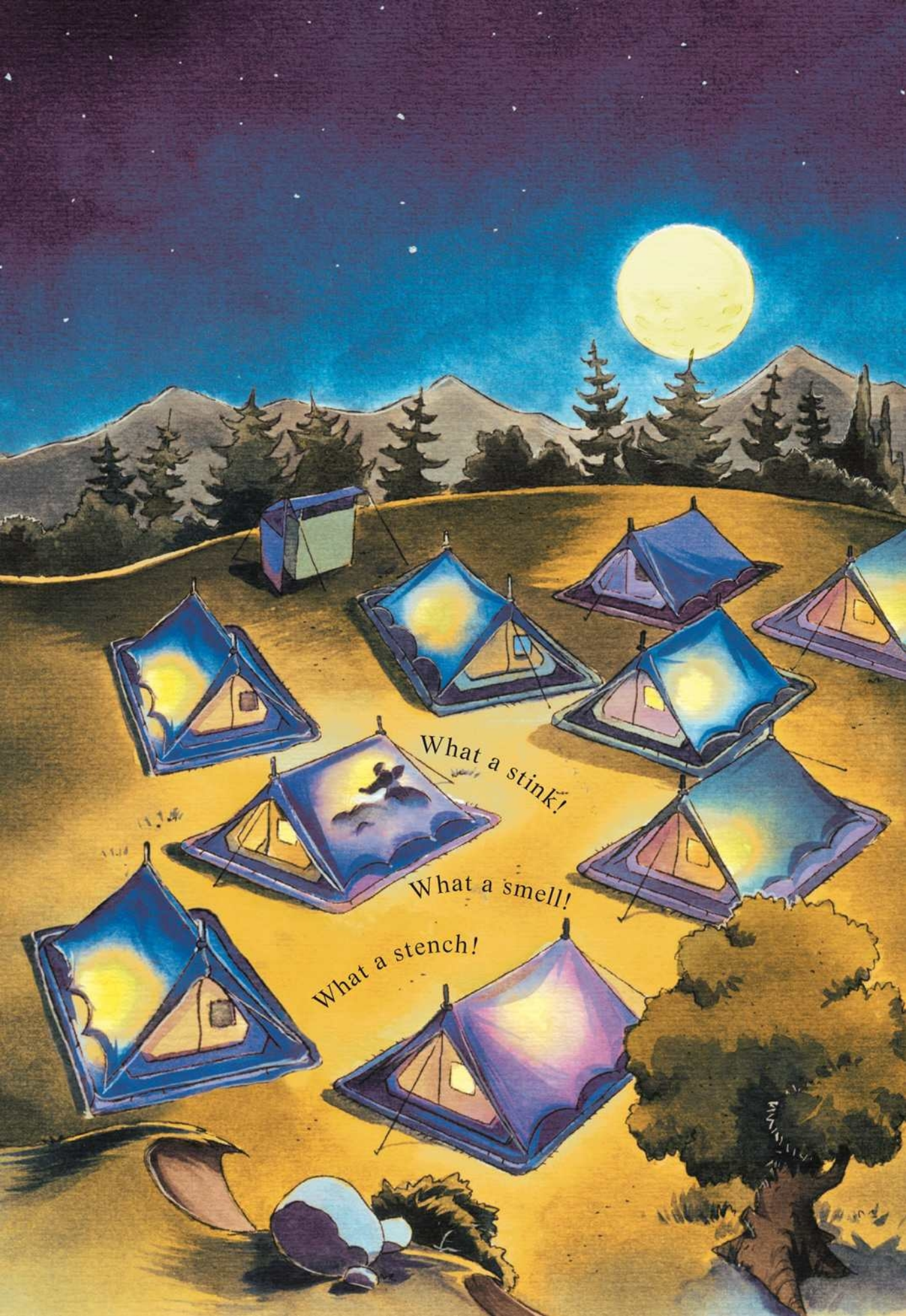
I woke up in the middle of the night. An **AWFUL** stench surrounded me. It smelled worse than my cousin Trap's rancid fish soup. **IT SMELLED WORSE THAN MY GRANDMOTHER ONEWHISKER'S DISGUSTING BRUSSELS SPROUT SOUFFLÉ.**

I opened my eyes. A black-and-white furry creature with two beady little eyes stared back at me.

I jumped out of the sleeping bag, **squeaking** at the top of my lungs.

FLASHLIGHTS snapped on all over the campsite.





What a stink!

What a smell!

What a stench!

WHAT A STINK!

WHAT A SMELL!

“What a stink!”

“What a smell!”

“What a stench!” I heard the other campers **CRY**.

I couldn't have agreed more. I started to chime in when I heard some more voices.

“Where is it coming from?” one said.

“That tent there,” another answered.

“That's the rodent from New Mouse City. The one named *Geronimo Stilton*,” a third cried.

**“He really needs to
clean up his act,”**

someone else piped up.

**“Yeah, I wonder if he knows
what the word ‘bath’ means,”**

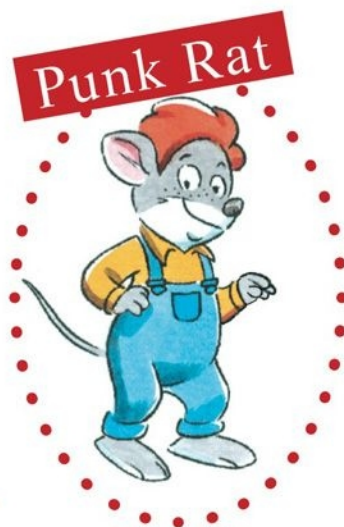
another muttered.

I turned beet **red**. How could they talk about me that way? I'm no **sewer** mouse. I love taking baths.

But there was no time to think about a bubble bath now. I had to defend myself. "I'm not the **stinky** one," I started to explain. "It was that creature. It had **BLACK** fur with a **WHITE** stripe..."

Punk Rat snickered. "**What creature? I don't see any creature,**" he smirked.

Then he began to sing in a high-pitched voice: "**Geronimo sees things in the dark. A slug, a squirrel, a giant shark!**"



Benjamin grabbed my paw. "Uncle, did you really see a creature?" he **whispered**. When I nodded, he stuck his snout in the

WHAT A STINK!

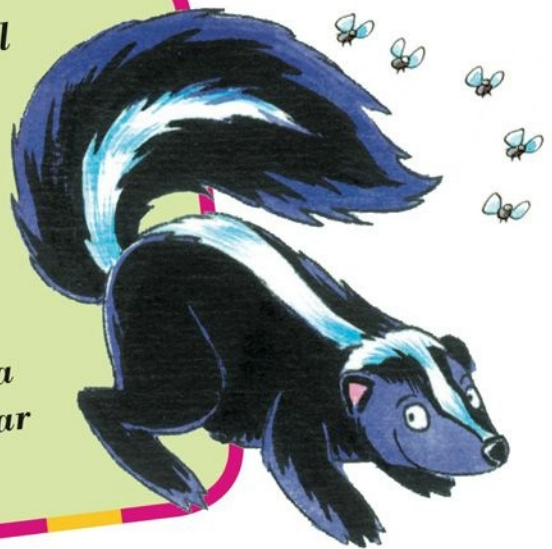
WHAT A SMELL!

tourist guide. I guess he was pretending he didn't know me. I couldn't blame him. Everyone thought I was losing my whiskers.

At that moment, Benjamin began squeaking. He held up the book. It showed a picture of the creature.

"See, my uncle was right!" my nephew told Punk Rat. "The creature he saw is called a **SKUNK!**"

A skunk is a mammal in the weasel family. It has a thick black coat with white stripes. It lives in woody areas and feeds on insects, small mammals, and fruit. To protect itself from predators, it uses a unique system: It raises its tail, spreads its hind feet, and sprays a smelly liquid that it can send as far as twelve feet.





A WALL OF RUSHING WATERS

The next morning, we woke up at dawn.
After breakfast, we hiked along the river.

I was tired. You probably already know
that I am not a morning mouse.

But I was also excited.

Finally, I would be able to see
Niagara Falls!



Our paws crunched through
the thick autumn leaves of **yellow**,
red, and **brown**. The air smelled crisp and
fresh. Don't you just love autumn? I do. I
love everything about it. Oh, except for
Halloween. I'm not big on scary holidays.

I started thinking about the Halloween



...a magnificent

party my cousin Trap was throwing this year. He said he was going to dig up a real skeleton and serve frozen eyeballs for dessert!

Just then, I felt like my own eyeballs had frozen. Well, my eyeballs and the rest of my body, that is. I was staring at a tremendous wall of rushing water. We had reached the falls! The river **rumbled** like thunder.



rainbow...

A magnificent rainbow made a bridge over the falls.

Ah, what an unbelievable sight! I could have stood and admired the falls all day. I just had one little problem: The rushing water was getting to me. With a squeak, I took off in search of a bathroom.



THUNDERING
WATERS!

The background of the page is a stylized illustration of Niagara Falls. The water is depicted in various shades of blue and white, showing the turbulent flow of the falls. Above the falls, the sky is a mix of light blue and pinkish-red, with white, puffy clouds. A text box with a blue border is positioned on the right side, containing the title and a paragraph. At the bottom right, there is a small illustration of a feathered arrow pointing right, with a circular shield-like object attached to its shaft. The shield has a yellow background with a blue and red geometric pattern.

THUNDERING WATERS

For thousands of years, only the Attawandarons, a peaceful tribe who lived in the territory that bordered the land of the warring Iroquois, knew about Niagara Falls. In the course of their long journeys, the Attawandarons, who were also called the Neutrals, were attracted by a loud noise and discovered the falls. They named them *Onguiaahra*, which means "thundering waters."





NATIVE AMERICANS

NORTHEAST

Algonquin: A tribe with lands in the Ottawa River valley.

Iroquois: A large confederation of tribes, including the Cayuga, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, and Tuscarora. They have a matriarchal society: The chiefs are chosen by the clan's mother, the oldest and wisest woman.

Attawandarons: A non-warring tribe that lived on the shores of lakes Huron, Erie, and Ontario.

SOUTHEAST

Cherokee: A tribe in Tennessee and North Carolina. A Cherokee leader, Sequoya, invented an alphabet for the Cherokee language that was made up of eighty-five symbols.

Creek: A confederation of tribes from Alabama, Georgia, and Florida.

Seminole: A tribe that emigrated to Florida and absorbed many runaway slaves.

SOUTHWEST

Apache: A group of tribes (Mescalero, San Carlos, Fort Apache, Apache Peaks, Mazatzal, and others) that share the same language. Skilled warriors, they were the last to surrender to white settlers. Famous chiefs include Geronimo and Cochise.

Navajo: Native people of northern New Mexico and Arizona, they are famous for their craftwork, including blankets, rugs, and jewelry.

Pueblo: A group of tribes in Arizona and New Mexico. This term also refers to the flat-roofed stone or adobe houses in which these Native Americans traditionally lived. Their houses were sometimes several stories high.



PLAINS

Cheyenne: A nomadic tribe, the Cheyenne once lived in tipis made from long poles and buffalo skins. They were skilled buffalo hunters.

Comanche: Warriors feared by all, the Comanche became skilled horsemen.

Blackfoot: Famous for their shoemaking ability, the Blackfoot dyed their moccasins black.

Sioux: A group of tribes, also known as the Lakota. Sitting Bull, Crazy Horse, and Red Cloud are famous Sioux chiefs.

HIGHLANDS AND LOWLANDS

Nez Percé (or Pierced Noses): A peaceful tribe in Idaho, Washington, and Oregon, who once wore objects piercing their noses.

Shoshone: Buffalo hunters in California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming, they sought peace with white settlers during the Indian wars.

CALIFORNIA

Hoopa: A tribe of artisans who traditionally lived along rivers in houses made of cedar. They ate acorns and salmon.

Wintu: A tribe whose economy was once based on deer, salmon, and acorns.

NORTHWEST

Chinook: Famous salmon merchants on the north shore of the Columbia River in Oregon.

Tlingit: A tribe skilled in working cedar wood and living on the islands and coast of Alaska.



ALL ABOARD!

A few minutes later, I was back at the **falls**. **Miss Angel Paws** was making an announcement.

“We will now board a boat called the *Maid of the Mist* that will take us to the falls,” she told the class. “Please do not lean over the side.”

We put on shiny **raincoats**. Then we climbed aboard the boat.



ALL



ABOARD!

It sailed straight up the Niagara River. Everything looked so different from **BELOW**.

A mist rose **UP** from the **spraying** water. We were **so close** to the falls.

I dug my paws into the railing of the deck. The water **churned** below us. I was **glad** we were all safe on the boat.

The sprays of water soaked my fur. Oh, well. No one could say I was stinky now.

I looked around. We were surrounded by **fog**.







A VISIT TO THE FALLS

The experience on board the *Maid of the Mist* is a very damp one, since the ship, navigating through sprays, goes right to the base of the falls. It is a breathtaking trip, and one of the best ways to appreciate the strength of this enormous body of water.



Wow!

How breathtaking!

What a marvelous sight!

MAID OF THE MIST IV





I felt like I was in a dream.

Just then, I remembered a story that I had read about Niagara Falls. I told it to the class.

A long, long time ago . . .



THE LEGEND OF THE MAID OF THE MIST

Many years ago, a tribe of Native Americans lived peacefully near the Niagara River. In order to protect themselves from diseases and hunger, the tribe always asked the god of thunder, who lived in a cave under the falls, for protection.

One day, the god saw Lelawala, the daughter of the great chief Eagle Eye, and decided to keep her for himself. The Native Americans offered him canoes full of flowers, fruit, and game, but the god insisted on marrying her. Lelawala was courageous and decided to protect her tribe by marrying the god. She showed up dressed in white, with a garland of flowers. She boarded a white birch canoe and bravely hurled herself over the falls. But when she fell from the top, the god stretched out his arms and saved her. The courageous young girl remained forever in the cave under the falls. She was called the Maid of the Mist, because at the base of the falls, there is always a dense mist made of droplets of water.





DON'T MOVE, PUNK RAT!

When I finished telling the **STORY**, I looked up. The boat was returning to shore. Right then, I noticed something. It was quiet. Too quiet. I began to get the feeling that something—or someone—**was missing**.

I ran up and down the boat counting the little mice.

"One two three four five six seven eight..."

I was right. We were short one rodent.

Can you guess who was missing? Here's a hint: He's the loudest mouse in the class and a pain in my tail. That's right, it was **Punk Rat**.

Suddenly, I spotted the little pest on the

shore. He must have been left behind when the boat took off.

“Don’t move, Punk Rat!” I yelled. “It’s dangerous! We’ll come and pick you up.”

“DON’T MOVE!!!”
“IT’S DANGEROUS!!!”



But at that moment, disaster struck. Punk Rat slipped on a wet rock. He tumbled into the water.





Help!



A DIVE . . . IN THE ICY WATER!

A little voice inside my head began screaming at me. “Don’t just stand there! Save him!” it yelled. I dove into the **water**. That’s when the other little voice began screaming. It shrieked,

“Geronimo, are you crazy? You’re not a swimmer. You can barely do two laps at the Cheddarville Y!”

ICY-COLD WATER soaked into my ears, my nose, even my throat. It blocked out the voices. All I could think about was **SAVING** Punk Rat.

I swam **desperately** toward him. I could





see his little head bobbing up and down in the waves. His little paws waved in the air. Up and down, wave. Up and down, wave. He looked like he was doing a perfect water ballet dance. I wondered if he had ever thought about taking lessons.



I was still thinking about water ballet when things went from bad to worse. Yep, Punk Rat went **UNDER**.





What could I do? *I dove down after him.*

It was dark under the water. **I COULD HARDLY SEE A THING.** Everything was so fuzzy. Everything was so blurry. *Maybe I need a new pair of glasses,* I thought. Then I realized I wasn't wearing glasses. I had lost them in the water!

Luckily, my paw felt **something**. It was Punk Rat's tail. I grabbed it. I pulled him up.

Someone threw me a life buoy from the boat. Then they pulled us in.

Cheesecake! We were saved!





YOU ARE NOT A MOUSE . . . YOU ARE A HERO!

The boat's captain patted me on the back. "Nice going, Mr. Stilton!" he exclaimed. Then he led the crowd in a chorus of cheers.

"HIP, HIP, HOORAY!"
HIP, HIP, HOORAY!"
they shouted.

A **large, beefy** tourist threw his paws around me. "That was beautiful," he squeaked. "Who would think a **scraggly** little rodent like you could do something like that?" He embraced me in a **crunching** hug. I felt all the bones in my body snapping. Then he accidentally stepped on my foot.

I quickly wrapped my foot in my nephew's bandanna.

Next, a little old lady mouse gave me a kiss. She had tears in her eyes.

“Bravo, young man! You are not a mouse . . . you are a hero!” she exclaimed.

While she was kissing me, the handle of her purse went into my eye.

her purse went into my eye.

"oooooooooooooouuuuuuch!"

I screamed at the top of my lungs. My eye felt like it was on fire. I tied a handkerchief around my head to soak up the tears. Now I looked just like a **PIRATE**.

The whole class stared at me. I could tell they were impressed. Little mice love pirates.



“You’re so lucky to have such a **COOL UNCLE**,” Sakura told Benjamin.

My nephew **BEAMED** with pride.

Punk Rat and I were wet and shivering. A sailor wrapped us in a blanket. He gave us each a cup of **HOT** chocolate.

My paws were shaking so much I spilled mine all over me. “**OOOOOOOOUUUCH!**” I screamed at the top of my lungs.

Oh, when would this day come to an **END?**





FRIENDS . . . FUREVER!

When Punk Rat stopped shivering, he wrapped his paws around my neck.

“Thank you, Geronimo! You saved my life! I’m sorry I played all those dumb **tricks** on you,” he gushed.

I tried to say something, but I couldn’t squeak. I couldn’t move. I couldn’t breathe.

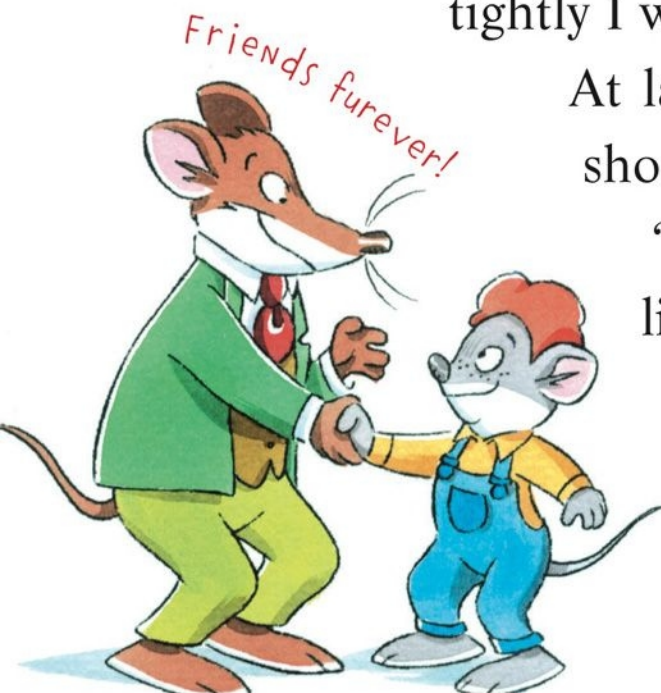
Punk Rat was squeezing my neck so tightly I was choking!

At last, he let go. Then he shook my paw.

“**Friends...furever!**” the little rodent squeaked.

I gave him a weak smile.

“**FUREVER**,” I croaked, still gasping for breath.



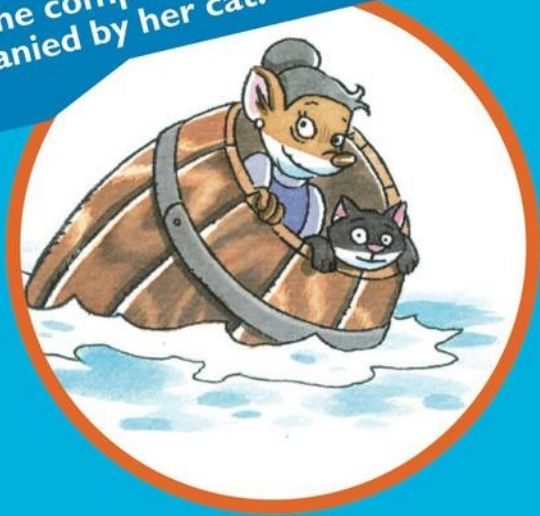
The Adventure Seekers of Niagara Falls

Many people have come to Niagara Falls seeking fame and adventure. Here are just a few of the most famous.



Hhe first daredevil was Jean-François Gravelet, known as Blondin. In 1859 and 1860, he crossed the falls by walking on a steel rope stretched across the top.

Hhe first woman to hurl herself over the falls inside a wooden barrel was Annie Telson, sixty-three years of age. She completed the feat in 1901, accompanied by her cat.



Bobby Leach faced the falls in 1911. He locked himself in a steel barrel, but he was less lucky than Annie. He was in the hospital for six months with various broken bones.

After his first attempt failed because the authorities stopped him, Dave Munday succeeded in hurling himself over the falls in a barrel twice, once in 1985 and once in 1993.





ISN'T IT MAGNIFICENT, GERONIMO?

Before we got off the boat, Benjamin spotted something floating in the water. It was my glasses. I reached over the side to fish them out, and...

SPLASH! I fell in.

I swam to shore. I was wet. I was cold. But I could see! I was in mouse heaven! I wondered if my glasses had missed me as much as I missed them.

We hiked back toward the camp.

We took a *shortcut through the woods.*

I looked around. The leaves on the trees were **such beautiful colors**—



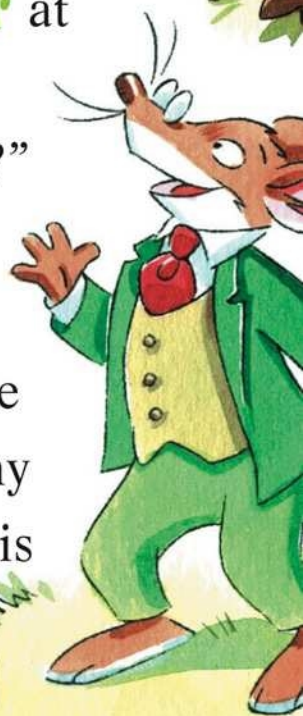
red, orange, brown, gold.

If I were an artist, I would have painted a picture. But I'm not. In fact, I was the only mouselet at Little Tails Academy to ever fail paw painting.

I trudged along, breathing in the fresh, crisp air. I really am a **nature lover** at heart.

"Isn't it magnificent, Geronimo?" **Miss Angel Paws** said.

Benjamin and his friends were running ahead. At last, I was alone with the teacher. I decided now was my chance. I had to find out more about this





beautiful mouse. Maybe we could go out to dinner sometime. I wondered if she would like Le Squeakery. It's my favorite French restaurant.

"So, um, *Miss Angel Paws*," I began shyly. "Are you married?"

Miss Angel Paws shook her head. A big tear rolled down her fur. Then she collapsed in a fit of sobs.

Oh, why did I have such rotten luck with female mice? If they weren't crying, they were running away from me.





The teacher pulled herself together. “Sorry,” she **sniffed**. “I am not married. But I was **IN LOVE** once, a long, long time ago. . . .”

Carefully, she opened a locket that she wore around her neck. Inside was a whisker.

“This is his whisker,” Miss Angel Paws explained. “It is all I have left of him. The last time I saw him, he was being chased by an angry cat. *I swore I would never fall in love again.*”

I sighed. What a *sad, sad story*. I felt bad for the whiskerless mouse. I felt bad for **Miss Angel Paws**. Right then, it began to rain. **The water poured down in buckets.**

Miss Angel Paws's locket







LOVE UNDER A CHEESE-COLORED UMBRELLA

Suddenly, a mouse appeared out of nowhere. He was carrying a large **CHEESE-COLORED** umbrella.

“Please, allow me,” he said *softly* to Miss Angel Paws. He held the umbrella over her head and smiled.

The two rodents stared at each other. They stared and stared. I wondered what the staring contest was all about. Then I noticed something. The mouse with the umbrella was missing a whisker. *Could it be?* I wondered.

Just then, the two mice clasped paws. “*It’s you!*” they squeaked together.

Well, that answered that question. It was



Miss Angel Paws



Gentle Mouse



all pretty amazing. I mean, what were the chances **Miss Angel Paws** would find her lost *love* at Niagara Falls? That's like finding a cheese cracker in an overflowing garbage can. It takes more than just digging. It takes luck!

I was happy for the teacher. At least someone was having a lucky day. I, on the other paw, was not. The rain seeped into my fur. It *dribbled down* my whiskers. It poured into my ears. I was getting soaked. I could see the little mice huddled together in a dry cave up ahead.

Meanwhile, the two *love* mice had the cheese-colored umbrella to protect them. Not that they seemed to notice it was





raining. They looked like they were under some kind of *magic spell*. The kind that makes you forget where you are.

I sighed. I wished I were under a

♥♥ *magic spell* ♥♥

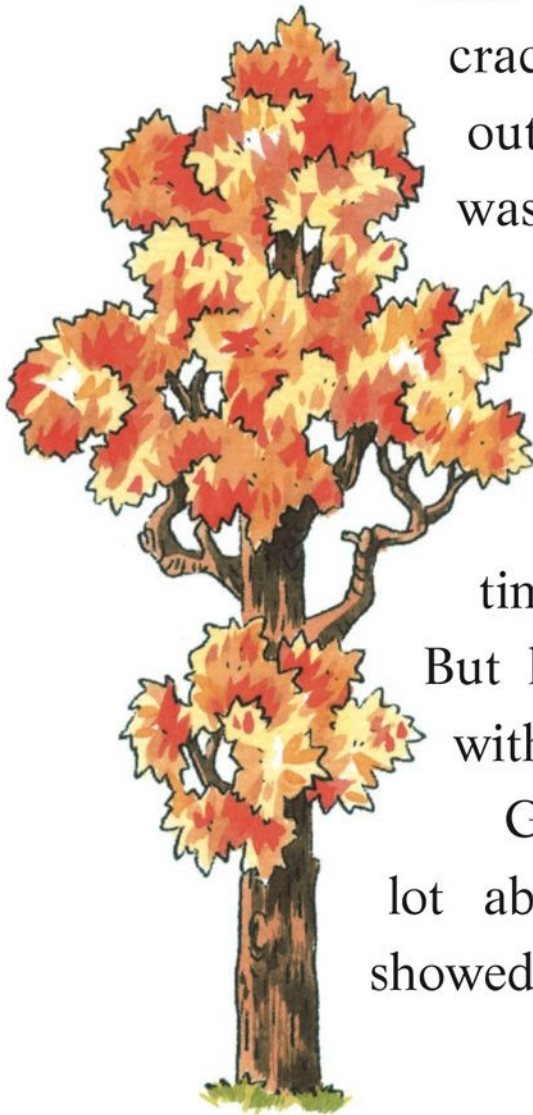
Then I could forget I was standing outside in the middle of a torrential

RAINSTORM!





A REAL GENTLE MOUSE



That night, we sat around a crackling campfire. It turned out Miss Angel Paws's friend was a forest ranger. His name was *Gentle Mouse*. I wanted not to like him. After all, I came on this trip just to spend more time with Miss Angel Paws. But how could I hate a rodent with a name like that?

Gentle Mouse knew a lot about *nature*. He showed us a maple leaf.

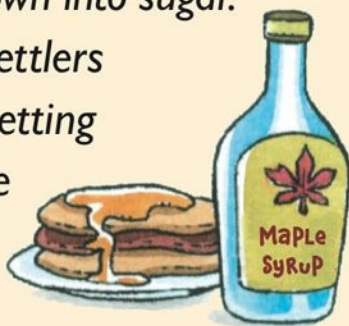




maple SyRuP

The sap from maple trees can be boiled down and made into maple sugar or maple syrup. When winter turned into spring, Native Americans would make V-shaped slashes in a maple tree trunk and collect the sap in a vessel. Then they would boil the sap down into sugar.

The early European settlers learned this way of getting maple sugar from the Native Americans.








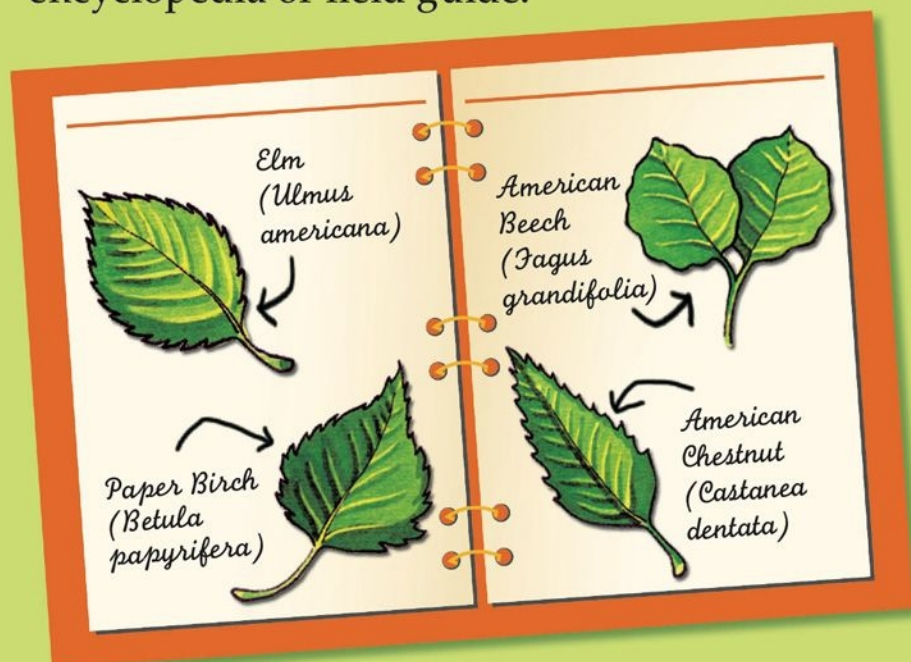
“From this **TREE**, we get **maple SyRuP**,” Gentle Mouse explained. He told the class how they could start their own collection of dried leaves.





HOW TO MAKE A COLLECTION OF DRIED LEAVES

-  1 Gather some leaves that have fallen to the ground. Take care to choose the most beautiful ones—with lots of different colors, shapes, and dimensions.
-  2 As soon as you get home, clean the leaves well. To dry them, place them between two sheets of paper inside a thick book.
-  3 When the leaves are dry and flat, glue them in a notebook or put them in a photo album.
-  4 Next to each leaf, write its name and the date it was collected.
-  5 Near each leaf's common name, you can write its botanical name, which can be found in an encyclopedia or field guide.





CHEEP . . . CHEEP . . .
CHEEP . . . CHEEP . . .

The next **MORNING**, we went for a hike through the woods. I tried to keep up with the group, but I kept tripping over rocks and twigs. Did I mention I'm not much of a sports mouse?

Gentle Mouse pointed out the different plants along the way.

"This is a sugar maple. Its leaf is on the



CHEEP . . . CHEEP . . .



CHEEP . . . CHEEP . . .

Canadian flag,” he explained. “This is a chestnut tree. Has anyone ever tried a **chestnut**?”



Just then, I saw two beady eyes blinking behind the bushes. “Look, a **fox**,” Gentle Mouse whispered excitedly.

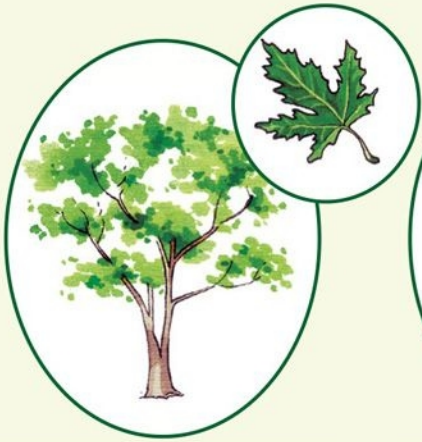
I gulped. I was okay with plants, but wild animals weren’t exactly my cup of cheddar. They can be a little scary. No, make that downright **terrifying**!

I scampered past the **fox**.

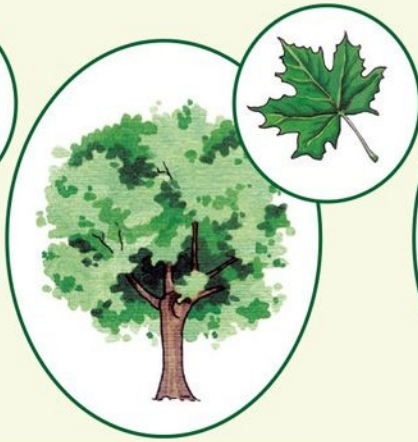
Gentle Mouse was busy pointing out other



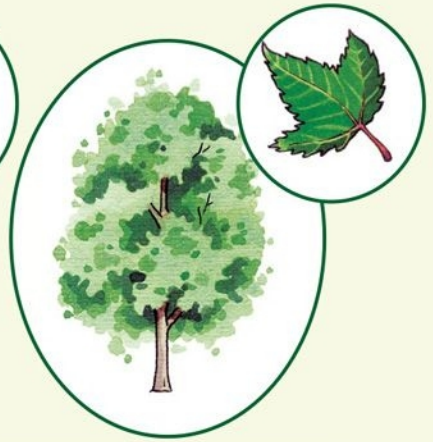
TREES AND THEIR LEAVES



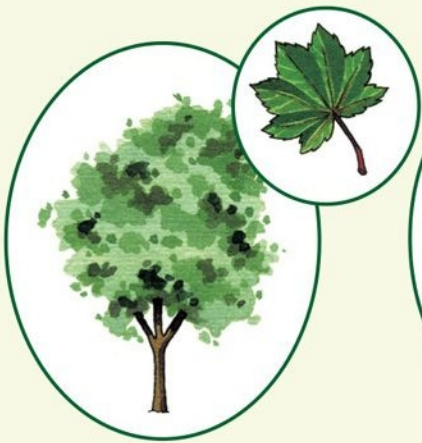
1. Sugar Maple
Acer saccharum



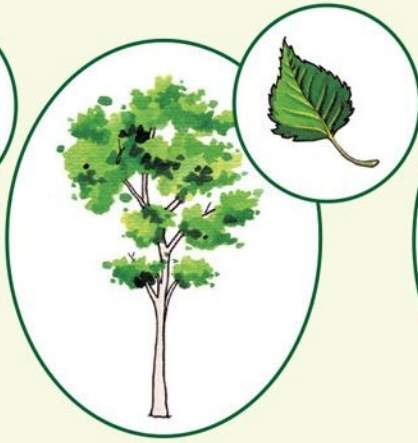
2. Norway Maple
Acer platanoides



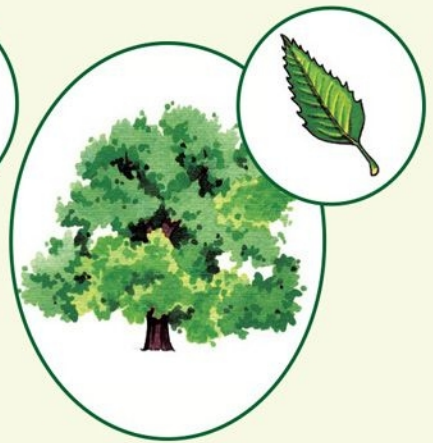
3. Red Maple
Acer rubrum



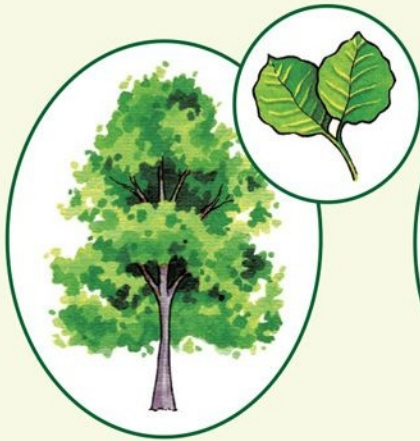
4. Vine Maple
Acer circinatum



5. Paper Birch
Betula papyrifera



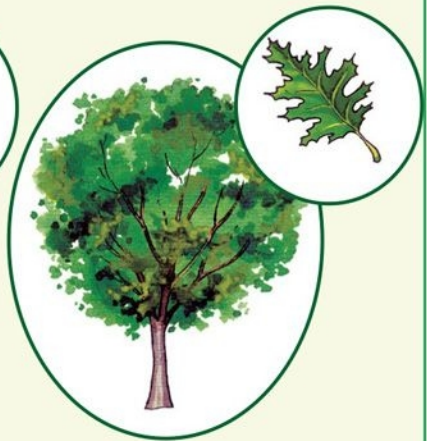
6. American Chestnut
Castanea dentata



7. American Beech
Fagus grandifolia

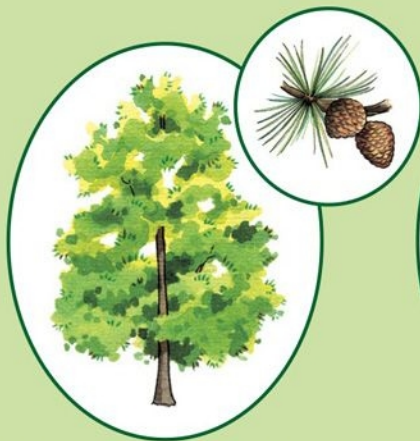


8. American Elm
Ulmus americana

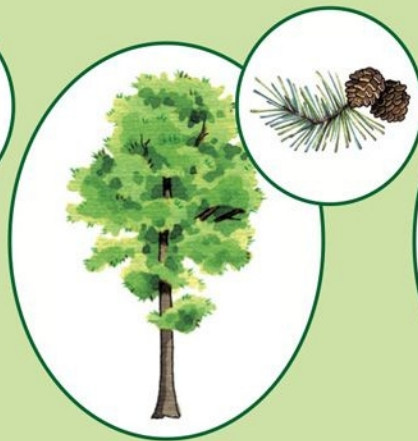


9. Red Oak
Quercus rubra

EVERGREENS



10. Pitch Pine
Pinus rigida

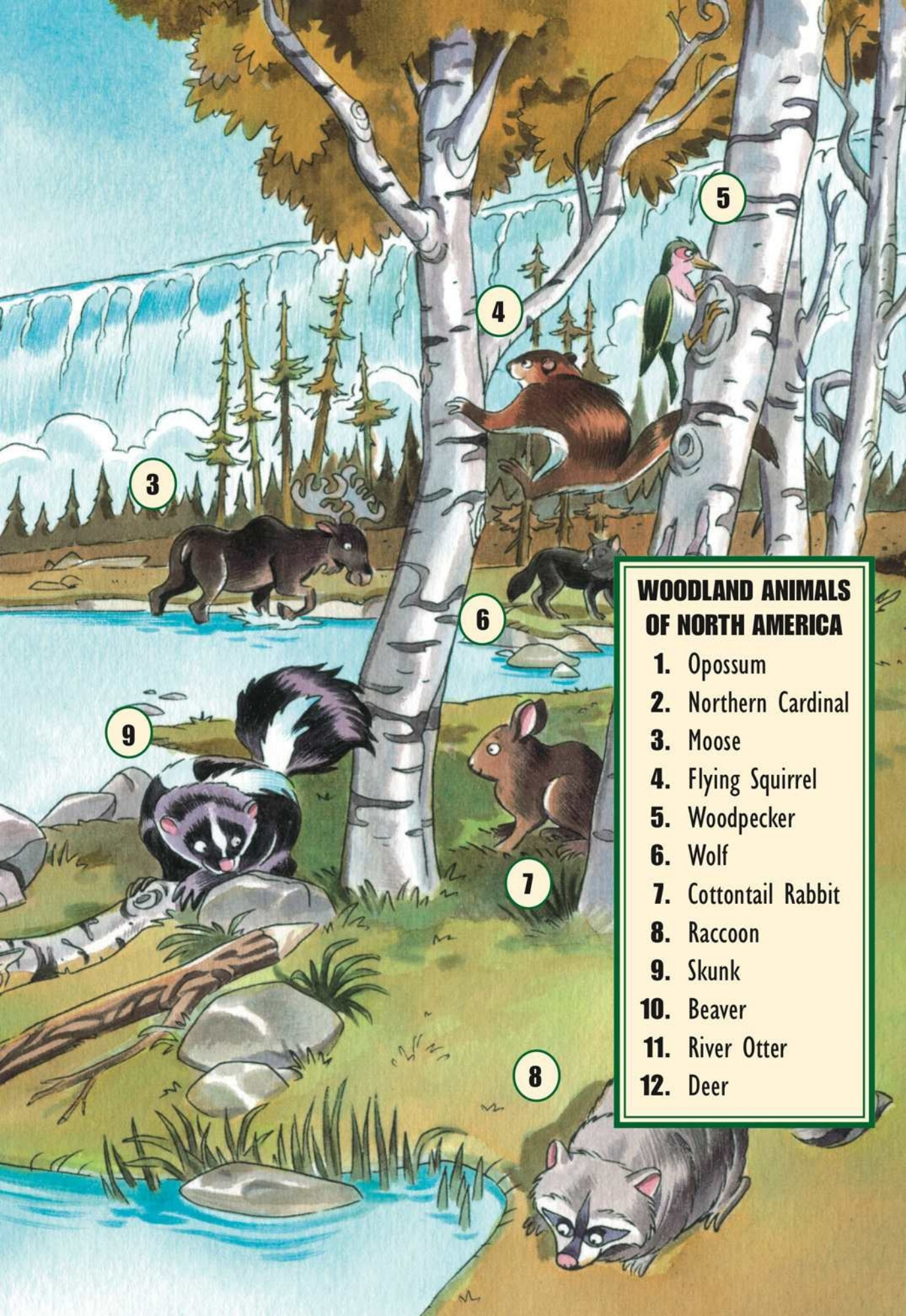


11. Red Pine
Pinus resinosa



12. Balsam Fir
Abies balsamea





WOODLAND ANIMALS OF NORTH AMERICA

1. Opossum
2. Northern Cardinal
3. Moose
4. Flying Squirrel
5. Woodpecker
6. Wolf
7. Cottontail Rabbit
8. Raccoon
9. Skunk
10. Beaver
11. River Otter
12. Deer

CHEEP... CHEEP...



CHEEP... CHEEP...

animals. We saw a beaver, a raccoon, and even a moose with huge antlers.

I couldn't believe how many wild animals we came across. Suddenly, I heard a loud chirping. **Cheep! Cheep!**

I followed the chirping to an oak tree. A little bird was lying on the ground.

"Help! It's fallen and it can't get up!" I told Gentle Mouse. "What should we do?"

S.O.S.

HOW TO GIVE FIRST AID TO A BIRD



1. When you find a little bird fallen to the ground, look for its nest around that area. Leave the bird alone and wait a little while....Its parents could come to claim it.
 2. If there is no nest, pick the bird up from the ground gently.
 3. If the bird is very small and still without feathers, you need to feed it, using a dropper.
 4. If the bird has feathers, take a look at its beak. If it's short and strong, feed it grain seeds. If it's long and thin, feed it insects.
 5. Keep the bird in a warm place that is similar to its nest, like a box with a woolen cloth.
 6. As soon as the bird is able to fly, set it free.
- And remember, ask a parent or adult before touching any wild animal!





"It's a little bird!"

Cheep...cheep...cheep...



THE FOREST IS ON FIRE!

Gentle Mouse showed us how to make a nest using a box and a towel. We found some seeds and fed them to the bird. It let out a happy chirp. Then it started **SMOKING**. Holy cheese! What was in those seeds? Then I realized the smoke wasn't coming from the bird. It was filling the air around us!

“**FIRE!**” someone screamed.

Gentle Mouse called for help on his cell phone. “**HURRY! THE FOREST IS ON FIRE!**” he cried. “Someone must have left a campfire burning. Send a plane right away!”

Gentle Mouse told everyone to **STAY CALM**. He divided us up into two teams.



The first team dug **FIRE TRENCHES**.
“If we cut down all of the plants, the **FIRE** will have nothing to burn,” Gentle Mouse explained.

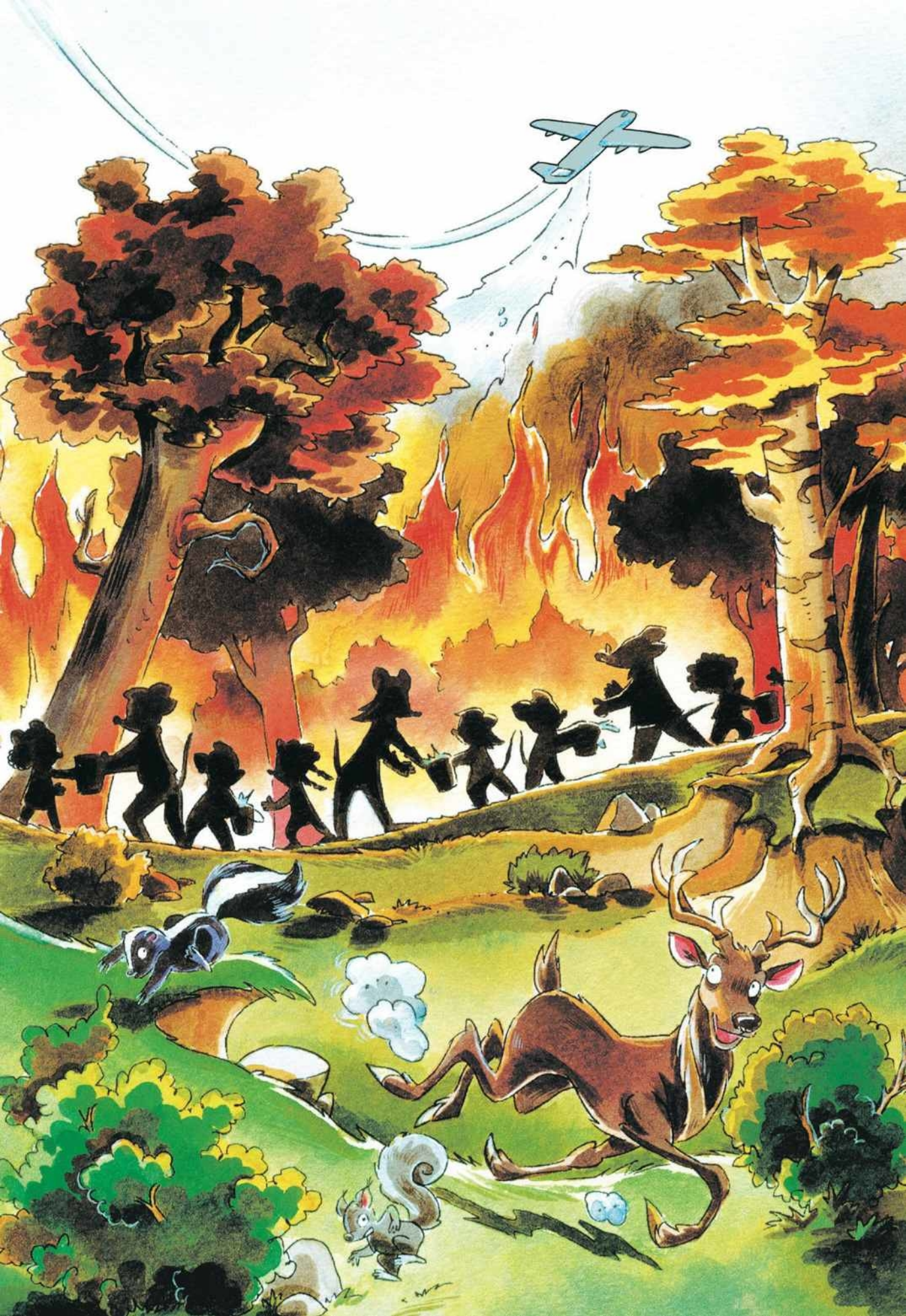


The second team formed a long chain that ended at a nearby brook. The first mouse in line filled a pail with **water**. Then he passed it down the line. The last mouse in line threw the water on the flames.



We worked like pack rats, but the heat was becoming unbearable. My fur was **scorched**. The smoke was making me choke.

Suddenly, a miracle happened. We heard the sound of engines. It was a plane carrying an enormous tank filled with water! The plane dumped the water onto the flames and then left to pick up more water from the lake. We were saved! But





before we could celebrate, Gentle Mouse began **SHOUTING**. “Has anyone seen Miss Angel Paws?”

“I saw her running toward those bushes. I think she was trying to help a wounded fawn,” Kay cried.

“Don’t worry, Miss Angel Paws!”
Gentle Mouse yelled. *“I’ll save you!”*

He disappeared in a cloud of smoke. A few minutes later, he returned. He was carrying the teacher in his paws. “My hero,” giggled Miss Angel Paws. “He saved the fawn, too!”

I felt a twinge of jealousy. Why couldn’t I be someone’s hero? Still, I had to admit, Miss Angel Paws and Gentle Mouse were a match made in mouse heaven.





HAVE I GOT A SURPRISE FOR YOU!

That night, the two **love mice** made an announcement. Can you guess what it was?

Yes, they had decided to get married.

“**HOORAY!**” cried the class. Everyone was **so excited**. But they were even more excited when they heard that Miss Angel Paws and Gentle Mouse wanted to get married

immediately. They had been missing each other for years. They didn’t want to wait any longer.

“We can do it right here in Niagara Falls!” Miss Angel Paws squeaked.





We put our heads together to plan the ceremony. It would have to be pretty simple. There would be no **wedding gown** or fancy wedding cake. After all, where could we get a dress and a cake in the middle of the wilderness?

I called my sister to ask for her advice. As I said, that mouse just loves a challenge.

An hour later, my cell phone **RANG**. It was Thea. “Hey, Gerry Berry, **have I got a surprise for you!**” she squeaked.

I **GULPED**. A surprise? From my sister? The last time she surprised me, she carpeted my whole apartment in **PINK CAT FUR!**



FLAP, FLAP, FLAP . . . VROOOOOOMMMM!

Right at that instant, I heard a **strange** noise over my head.

FLAP, FLAP, FLAP . . . VROOOOMMMM!
FLAP, FLAP, FLAP . . . VROOOOMMMM!
FLAP, FLAP, FLAP . . . VROOOOMMMM!

I looked up and screamed.

A pink helicopter was circling above me.

Pink sugar-coated almonds rained down all around me.

Pink invitations with the bride's and groom's names on them flew through the air.

A bunch of thorny **pink** roses hit me in the snout. Youch!

So this was my sister's surprise. I was



relieved. I'd take a thorn in the snout over that awful **pink** carpeting any day.

I told everyone who the nutty mouse flying the plane was.

"My sister loves **pink**," I added.

At that moment, an **ENORMOUSE pink** package struck me on the head. Before I fainted, I noticed a note on the side of the box. It said:

*For Angel Paws
and Gentle Mouse*

When I came to, the others were busy opening **Thea's** package. No one gave me a second glance. I snorted. So much for mousely manners. It







was clear that all anyone cared about was the box.

What was inside? It was a full-length wedding dress and a tux. Now everyone was happy. Well, everyone except me, that is. A lump had formed on top of my head. It was the size of a mega-huge ball of *mozzarella*!



The surprise package







BARBECUE TIME!

After the wedding ceremony, we headed back to the campsite. When we arrived we were overwhelmed by a delicious smell. I sniffed the air. Could it be? Yes, it smelled just like a **backyard barbecue**.

I ran toward the campsite. That's when I spotted a big poster leaning against a rock. It said:





I scratched my fur. There was only one rodent I knew who was that full of himself. There was only one rodent I knew who was that irritating... such a pain!

My cousin Trap!

Just then, a pair of whiskers emerged from behind a cloud of smoke. A **pot-bellied** rodent wearing a loud Hawaiian-print shirt stood behind a smoking grill. He waved a greasy spatula at me. “Yo, **Germeister**, what’s squeaking?” he smirked. “Love the lump on your head. It’s soooooo you!”

I rolled my eyes. Yep, it was my cousin Trap, all right. Have I mentioned he’s a total **pain** in my tail?

I started to explain about the bump on my head when Trap interrupted me.

“Listen up, rodents!” he called. “You’re about to taste the best cooking around. So



don't drag your feet, it's time to eat. Now that you've found Trap, you can throw away your map. That's **TRAP** —

T as in **LOOK OUT, TONGUE, YOU'RE IN FOR A TREAT!**

R as in **READY OR NOT, HERE IT COMES!**

A as in **ASK ME IF I CAN COOK.**

P as in **PAY ATTENTION, THE NAME IS TRAP!"**

Yes, there is one thing you should know about my cousin. He's in love. No, not with another mouse. With himself!



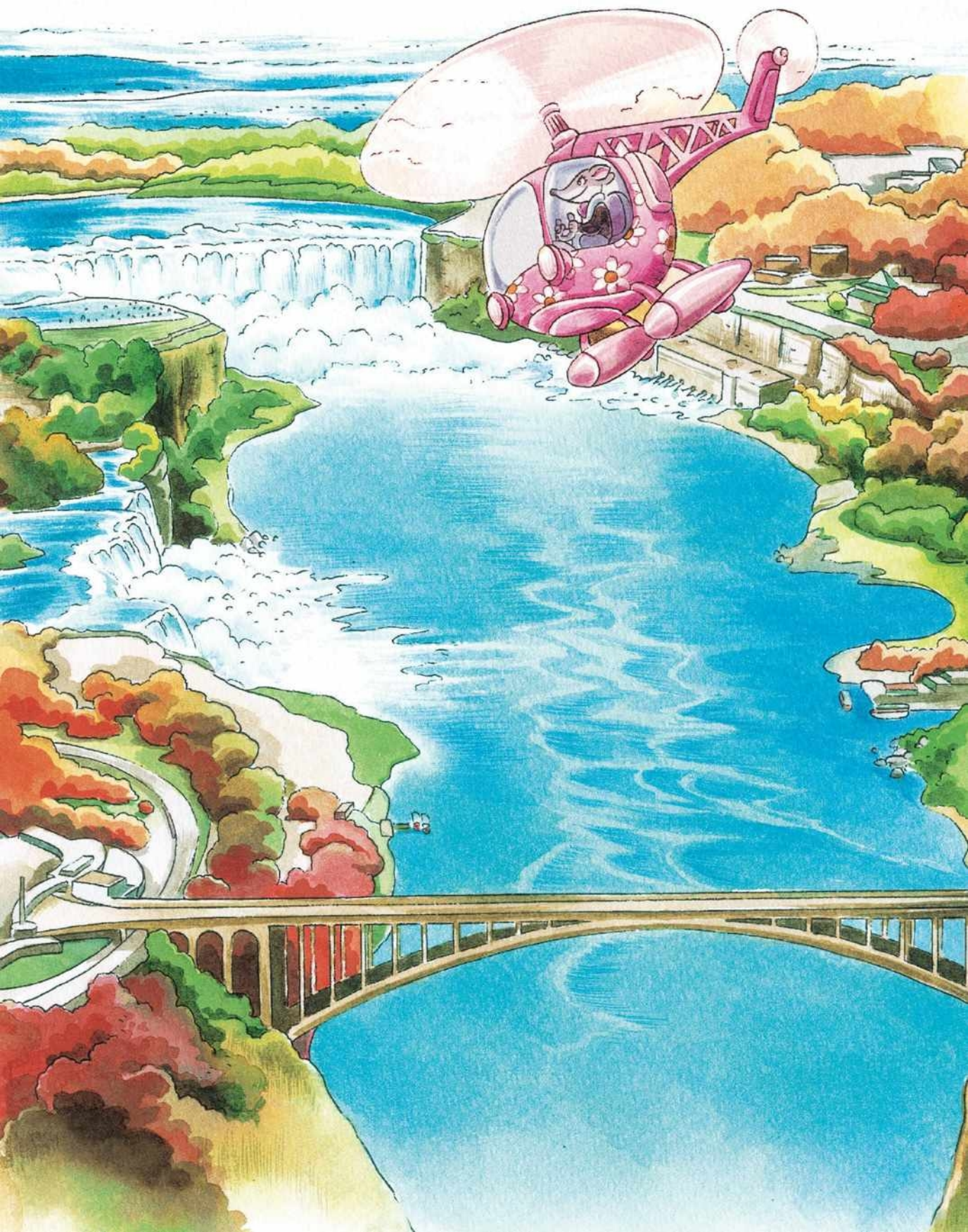


Still, I had to admit his barbecue was **DELICIOUS**. I stuffed my snout like my uncle Cheesebelly at a *make-your-own-cheese-sundae buffet*.

After dessert, Thea took me on a helicopter ride over the **falls**. It really was a **SPECTACULAR** sight. Too bad I got sick on the way down. I knew I shouldn't have eaten **three pieces of cheesecake!**

HIT THE SPOT!
THAT







LITTLE MICE AROUND THE WORLD

Finally, it was time to go home. We boarded the plane headed for Mouse Island. It was another long flight. The little mice climbed all over me. Then they sang songs at the top of their lungs. I didn't get one bit of rest. Still, I was kind of *sad* when we landed. I was going to miss those little rodents.

As we were waiting for our luggage, I made an announcement. "You are all invited to visit me at *The Rodent's Gazette*," I told the class. "You can see how we put the newspaper together. **You can see how a book is made.**"

"HOORAY!" the little mice cheered.

Then Punk Rat grabbed my paw.



"I'm going to miss you, Mr. Geronimouse," he **sobbed**.

I patted his head.

"I'll miss you too, Punk Rat," I said. "Um, but remember, my name is *Geronimo*, *Geronimo Stilton*."

"Of course, Mr. Geronimity," Punk Rat squeaked.

I tried to remain calm. "It's Geronimo, Punk Rat," I repeated. "That's **G-E-R-O-N-I-M-O**."

Punk Rat smirked. "That's what I said, Mr. Geronimoose," he giggled.





I gave up. What else could I **DO**?

Punk Rat flung his paws around my neck. He really wasn't such a bad little mouse. In fact, he was just like lots of little mice around the world — *full of life and love and, oh, of course, cheese.*





TO TRAVEL . . . IS BETTER THAN TO ARRIVE

We headed for the airport exit. A school bus was waiting for Miss Angel Paws and her class. I waved good-bye. “I’ll take a taxi home,” I told them.

A line of cheese-colored cabs waited at the curb. But for some reason, my paws didn’t want to budge. My bag felt like it weighed a ton. An overwhelming feeling of sadness came over me. It had been such an

exciting adventure.

And now it was over.

Just then, I remembered a line from one of my favorite authors. His name



TO TRAVEL...



IS BETTER

was Robert Louis Squeakenson. Do you know him? He wrote a book called **TREASURE ISLAND**. Anyway, he said that **TO TRAVEL IS BETTER THAN TO ARRIVE**.



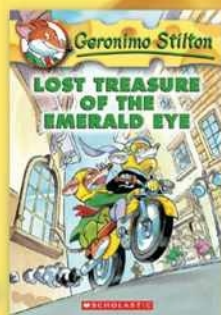
Well, I don't know if that is true all of the time. Usually, I am thrilled to get back to my comfy, cozy mouse hole. But this time, I still had the **travel bug** in me.

And so I did what any smart mouse would do. I turned around and headed right back into the airport. I, *Geronimo Stilton*, booked a trip to **BLUE CHEESE ISLAND**. I hear it's supposed to be beautiful there this time of year. Blue skies, blue waters, and lots and lots of blue cheese.

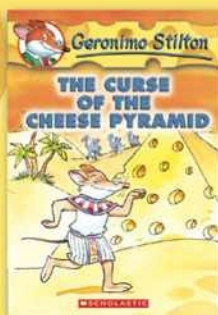
I couldn't wait to get there!



**Don't miss
any of my
fabumouse
adventures!**



**#1 Lost Treasure
of the Emerald Eye**



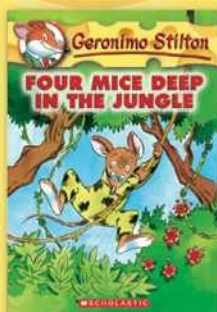
**#2 The Curse
of the Cheese
Pyramid**



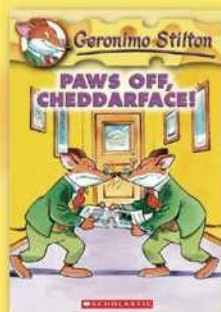
**#3 Cat and
Mouse in a
Haunted House**



**#4 I'm Too Fond
of My Fur!**



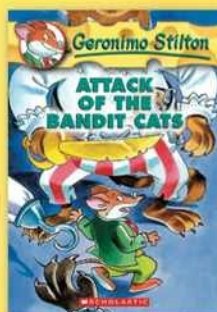
**#5 Four Mice
Deep in the Jungle**



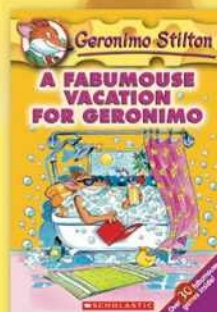
**#6 Paws Off,
Cheddarface!**



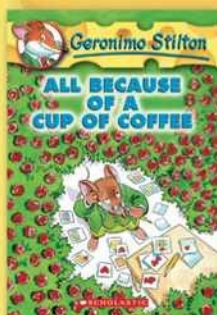
**#7 Red Pizzas for
a Blue Count**



**#8 Attack of the
Bandit Cats**



**#9 A Fabumouse
Vacation for
Geronimo**



**#10 All Because of
a Cup of Coffee**



**#11 It's
Halloween, You
'Fraidy Mouse!**



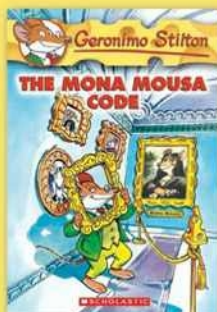
**#12 Merry
Christmas,
Geronimo!**



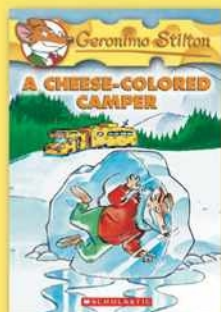
**#13 The Phantom
of the Subway**



**#14 The Temple of
the Ruby of Fire**



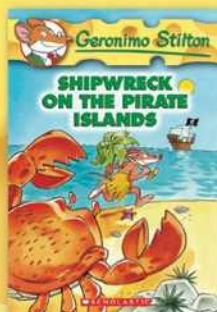
**#15 The Mona
Mousa Code**



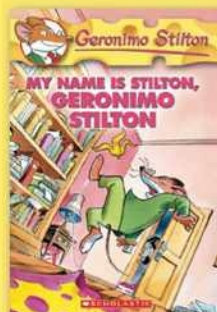
**#16 A Cheese-
Colored Camper**



**#17 Watch Your
Whiskers, Stilton!**



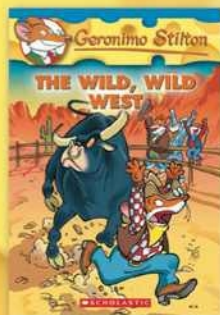
**#18 Shipwreck on
the Pirate Islands**



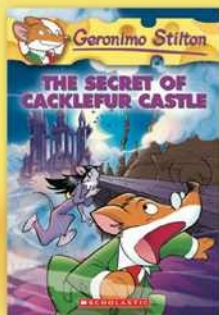
**#19 My Name Is
Stilton, Geronimo
Stilton**



**#20 Surf's Up,
Geronimo!**



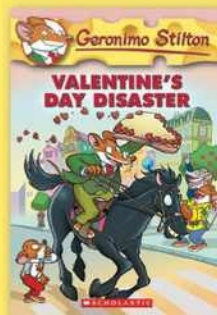
**#21 The Wild,
Wild West**



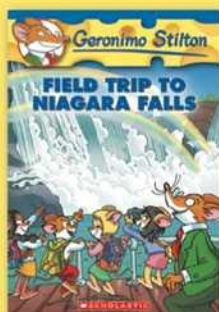
**#22 The Secret
of Cacklefur
Castle**



A Christmas Tale



**#23 Valentine's
Day Disaster**



**#24 Field Trip to
Niagara Falls**



**#25 The Search
for Sunken
Treasure**



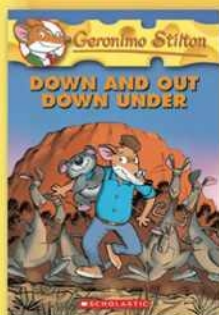
**#26 The Mummy
with No Name**



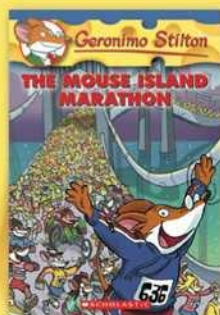
**#27 The
Christmas Toy
Factory**



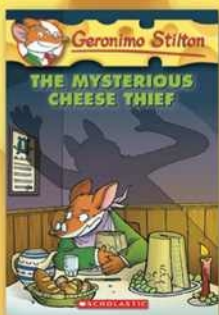
**#28 Wedding
Crasher**



**#29 Down and
Out Down Under**



**#30 The Mouse
Island Marathon**



**#31 The
Mysterious
Cheese Thief**



**Christmas
Catastrophe**



**#32 Valley of the
Giant Skeletons**



**#33 Geronimo
and the Gold
Medal Mystery**



**#34 Geronimo
Stilton, Secret
Agent**



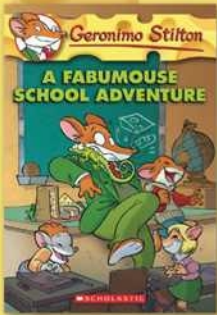
**#35 A Very Merry
Christmas**



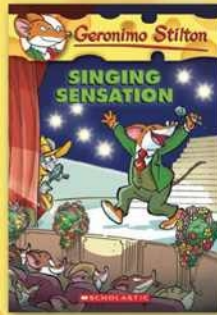
**#36 Geronimo's
Valentine**



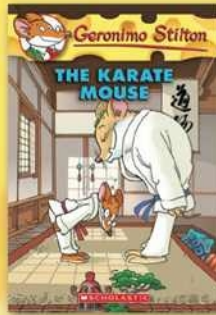
**#37 The Race
Across America**



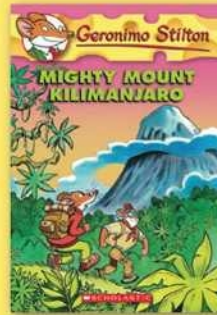
#38 A Fabumouse School Adventure



#39 Singing Sensation



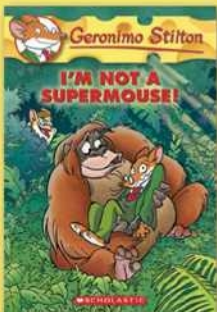
#40 The Karate Mouse



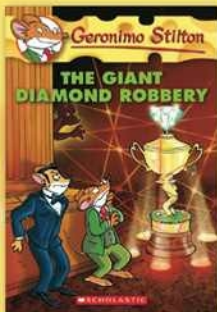
#41 Mighty Mount Kilimanjaro



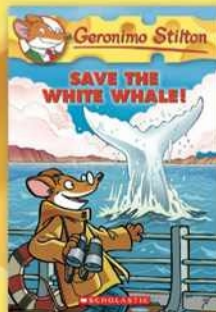
#42 The Peculiar Pumpkin Thief



#43 I'm Not a Supermouse!



#44 The Giant Diamond Robbery



#45 Save the White Whale!



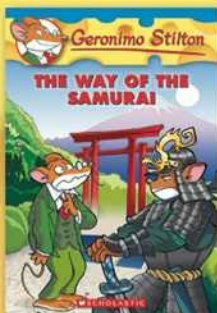
#46 The Haunted Castle



#47 Run for the Hills, Geronimo!



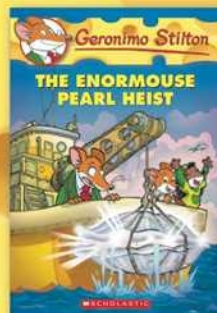
#48 The Mystery in Venice



#49 The Way of the Samurai



#50 This Hotel Is Haunted



#51 The Enormous Pearl Heist



#52 Mouse in Space!



#53 Rumble in the Jungle



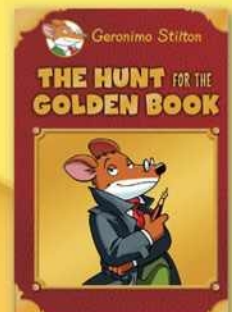
#54 Get into Gear, Stilton!



#55 The Golden Statue Plot



#56 Flight of the Red Bandit



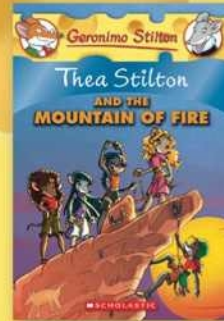
Special Edition: The Hunt for the Golden Book



**Check out
these exciting
Thea Sisters
adventures!**



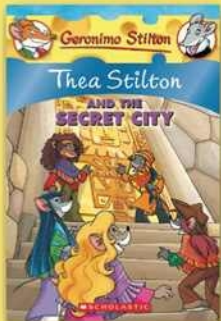
**Thea Stilton and the
Dragon's Code**



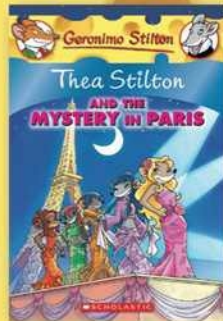
**Thea Stilton and the
Mountain of Fire**



**Thea Stilton and the
Ghost of the Shipwreck**



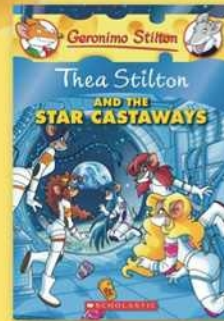
**Thea Stilton and the
Secret City**



**Thea Stilton and the
Mystery in Paris**



**Thea Stilton and the
Cherry Blossom Adventure**



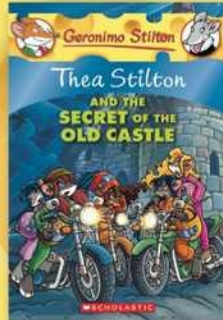
**Thea Stilton and the
Star Castaways**



**Thea Stilton: Big Trouble
in the Big Apple**



**Thea Stilton and the
Ice Treasure**



**Thea Stilton and the
Secret of the Old Castle**



**Thea Stilton and the
Blue Scarab Hunt**



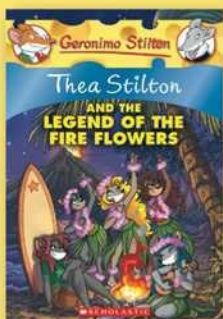
**Thea Stilton and the
Prince's Emerald**



**Thea Stilton and the Mystery
on the Orient Express**



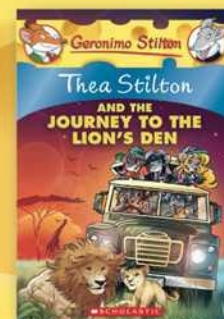
**Thea Stilton and the
Dancing Shadows**



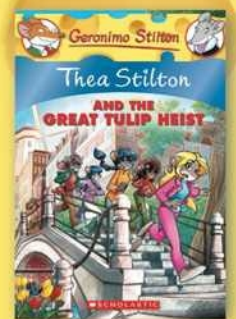
**Thea Stilton and the
Legend of the Fire
Flowers**



**Thea Stilton and the
Spanish Dance Mission**



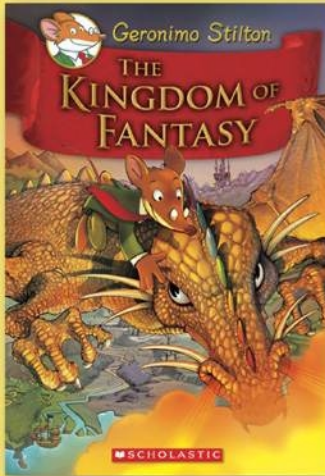
**Thea Stilton and the
Journey to the Lion's Den**



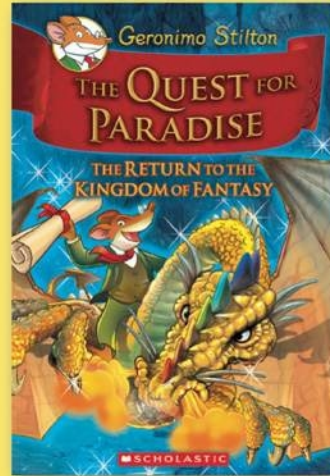
**Thea Stilton and the
Great Tulip Heist**



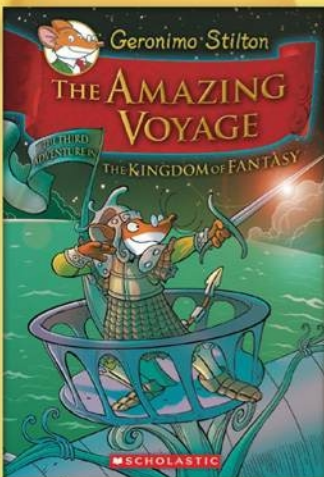
Be sure
to read all
my adventures
in the Kingdom
of Fantasy!



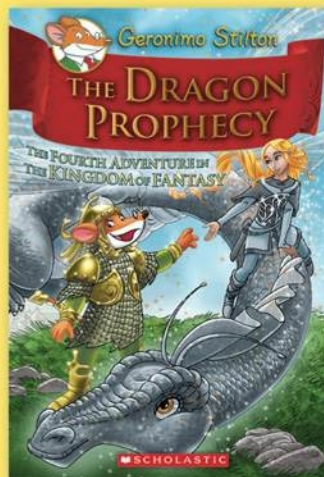
**THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY**



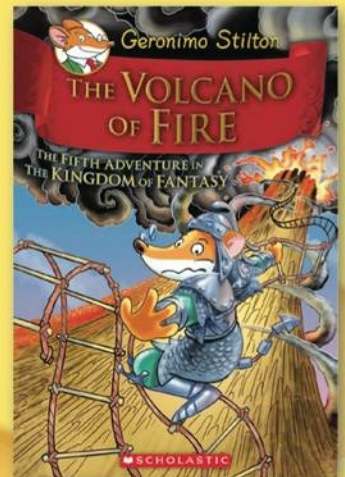
**THE QUEST FOR
PARADISE:
THE RETURN TO THE
KINGDOM OF FANTASY**



**THE AMAZING
VOYAGE:
THE THIRD ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY**



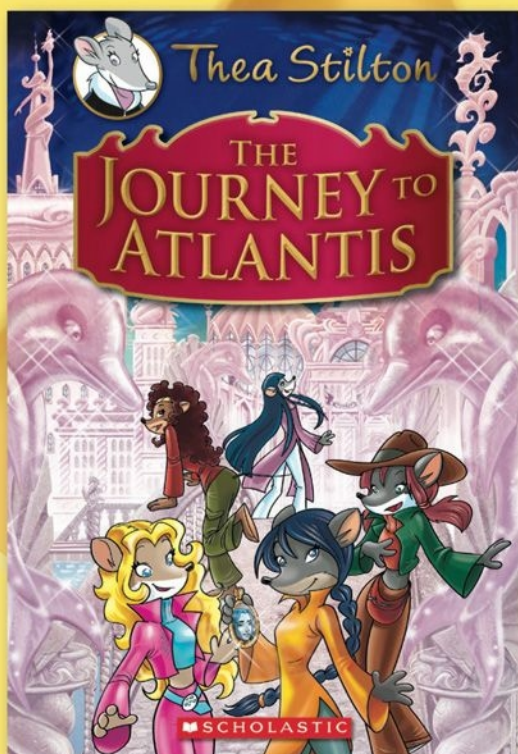
**THE DRAGON
PROPHECY:
THE FOURTH ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY**



**THE VOLCANO
OF FIRE:
THE FIFTH ADVENTURE
IN THE KINGDOM
OF FANTASY**



Check out
these very
special editions
featuring me
and the Thea
Sisters!



THE JOURNEY
TO ATLANTIS

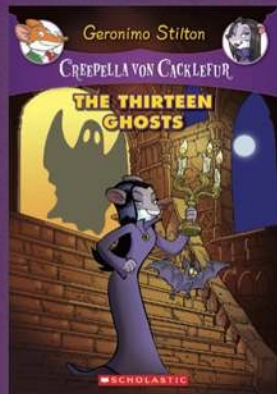


THE SECRET OF
THE FAIRIES

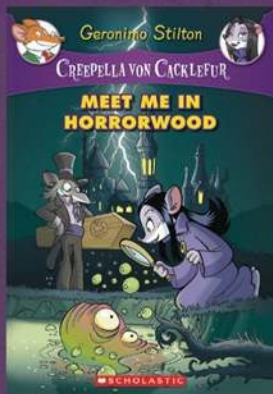


Meet CREEPELLA VON CACKLEFUR

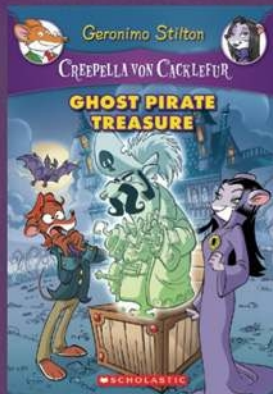
I, *Geronimo Stilton*, have a lot of mouse friends, but none as **spooky** as my friend **CREEPELLA VON CACKLEFUR**! She is an enchanting and **MYSTERIOUS** mouse with a pet bat named **Bitewing**. **YIKES!** I'm a real 'fraidy mouse, but even I think **CREEPELLA** and her family are **AWFULLY** fascinating. I can't wait for you to read all about **CREEPELLA** in these **fa-mouse-ly funny** and **spectacularly spooky** tales!



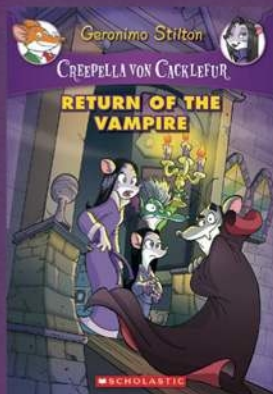
#1 The Thirteen Ghosts



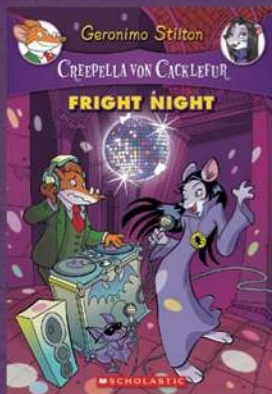
#2 Meet Me In Horrorwood



#3 Ghost Pirate Treasure



#4 Return of the Vampire

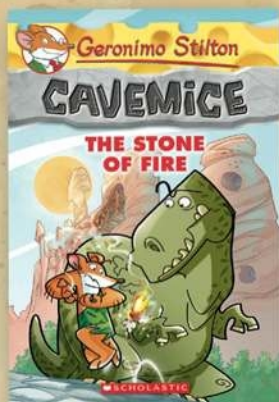


#5 Fright Night

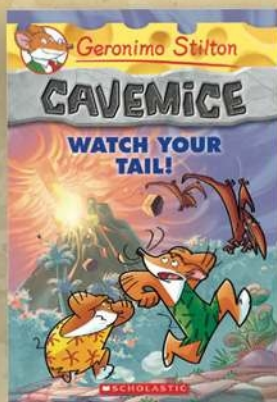


Meet **GERONIMO STILTONOOT**

He is a cavemouse — Geronimo Stilton's ancient ancestor! He runs the stone newspaper in the prehistoric village of Old Mouse City. From dealing with dinosaurs to dodging meteorites, his life in the Stone Age is full of adventure!



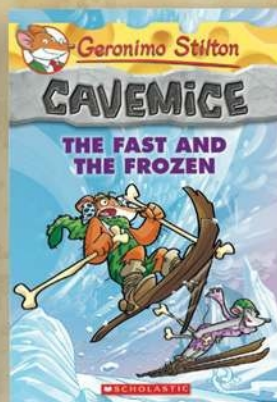
#1 The Stone of Fire



#2 Watch Your Tail!



#3 Help, I'm in Hot Lava!

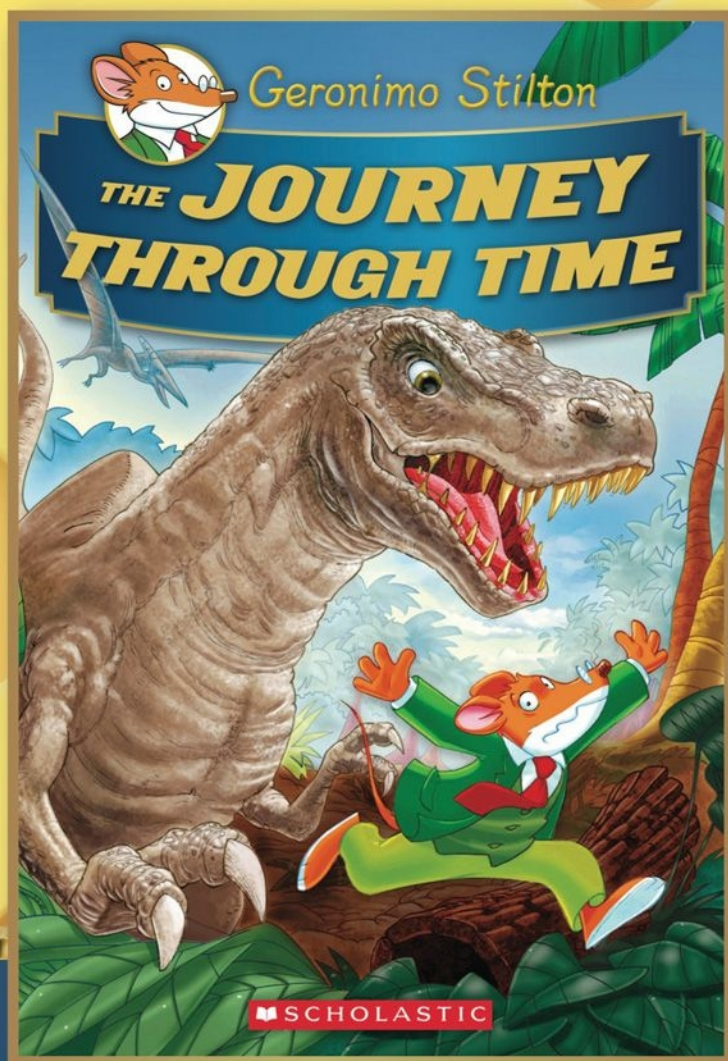


#4 The Fast and the Frozen





Join me and my friends on
a journey through time in
this very special edition!



THE JOURNEY
THROUGH TIME

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Born in New Mouse City, Mouse Island, **GERONIMO STILTON** is Rattus Emeritus of Mousomorphic Literature and of Neo-Ratonic Comparative Philosophy. For the past twenty years, he has been running *The Rodent's Gazette*, New Mouse City's most widely read daily newspaper.

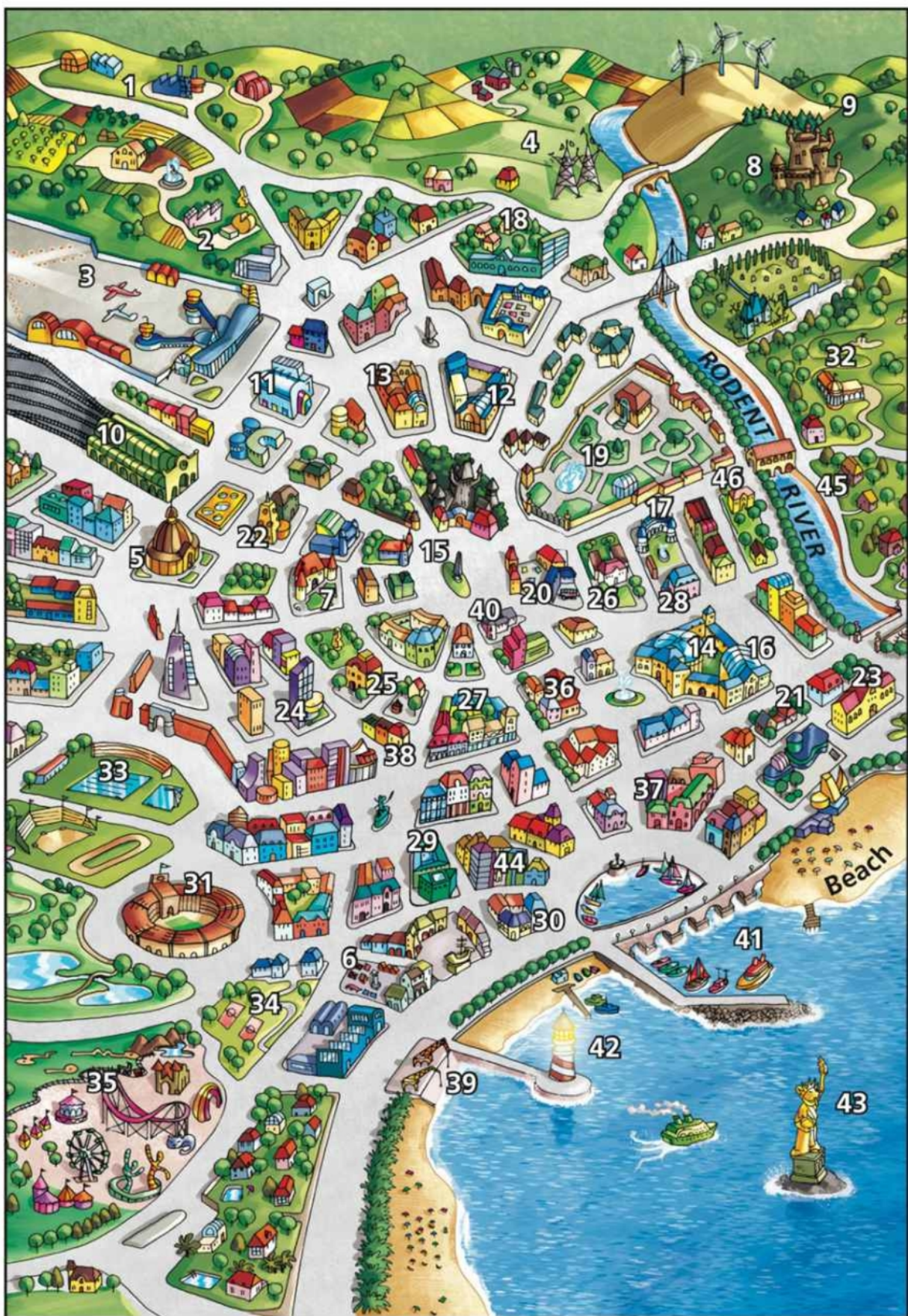
Stilton was awarded the Ratitzer Prize for his scoops on *The Curse of the Cheese Pyramid* and *The Search for Sunken Treasure*. He has also received the Andersen 2000 Prize for Personality of the Year. One of his bestsellers won the 2002 eBook Award for world's best ratlings' electronic book. His works have been published all over the globe.

In his spare time, Mr. Stilton collects antique cheese rinds and plays golf. But what he most enjoys is telling stories to his nephew Benjamin.



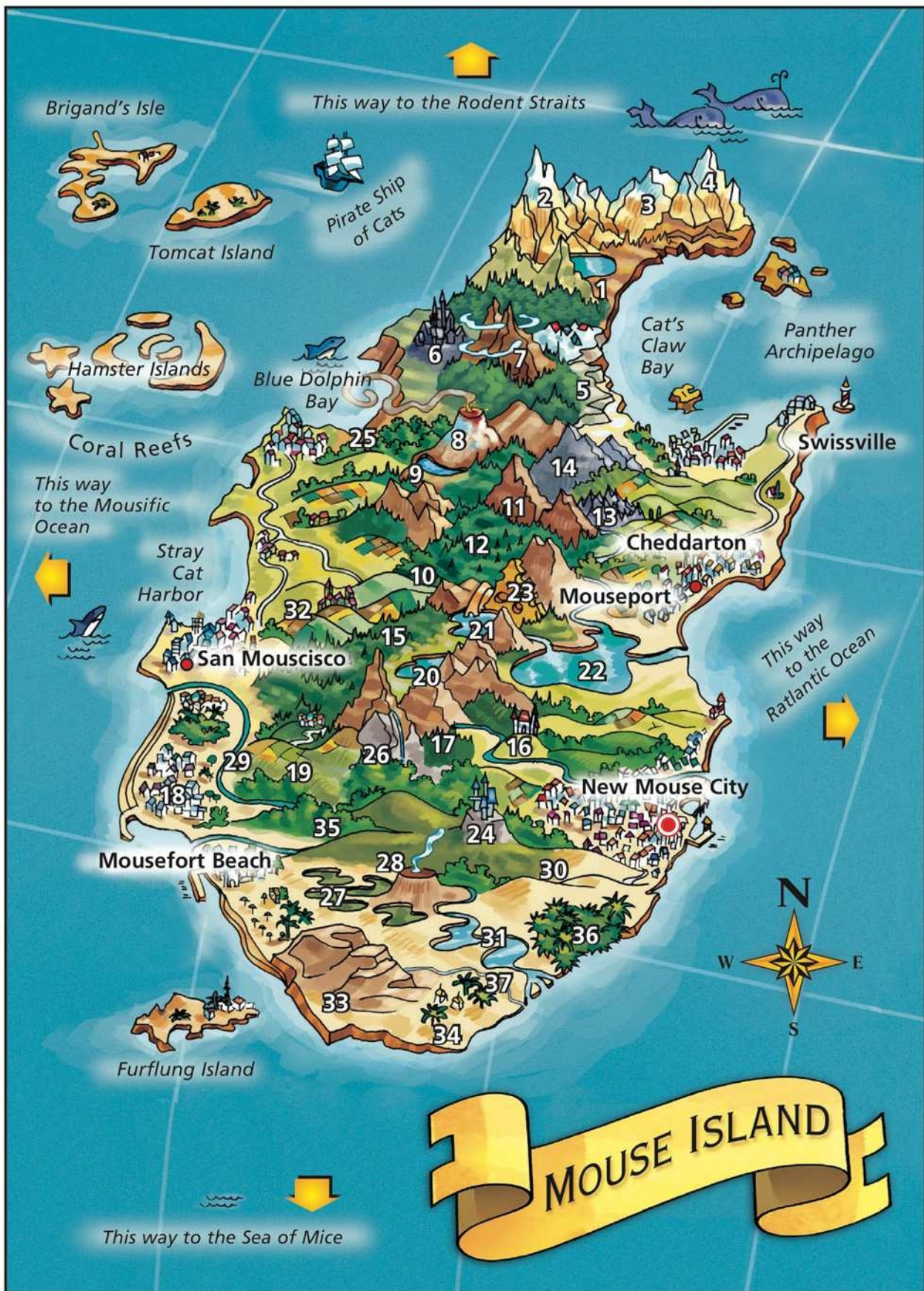
1. Main entrance
2. Printing presses (where the books and newspaper are printed)
3. Accounts department
4. Editorial room (where the editors, illustrators, and designers work)
5. Geronimo Stilton's office
6. Helicopter landing pad

*THE RODENT'S
GAZETTE*



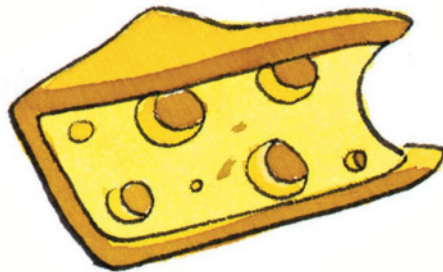
Map of New Mouse City

1. Industrial Zone
2. Cheese Factories
3. Angorat International Airport
4. WRAT Radio and Television Station
5. Cheese Market
6. Fish Market
7. Town Hall
8. Snotnose Castle
9. The Seven Hills of Mouse Island
10. Mouse Central Station
11. Trade Center
12. Movie Theater
13. Gym
14. Catnegie Hall
15. Singing Stone Plaza
16. The Gouda Theater
17. Grand Hotel
18. Mouse General Hospital
19. Botanical Gardens
20. Cheap Junk for Less (Trap's store)
21. Aunt Sweetfur and Benjamin's House
22. Mouseum of Modern Art
23. University and Library
24. *The Daily Rat*
25. *The Rodent's Gazette*
26. Trap's House
27. Fashion District
28. The Mouse House Restaurant
29. Environmental Protection Center
30. Harbor Office
31. Mousidon Square Garden
32. Golf Course
33. Swimming Pool
34. Tennis Courts
35. Curlyfur Island Amusement Park
36. Geronimo's House
37. Historic District
38. Public Library
39. Shipyard
40. Thea's House
41. New Mouse Harbor
42. Luna Lighthouse
43. The Statue of Liberty
44. Hercule Poirat's Office
45. Petunia Pretty Paws's House
46. Grandfather William's House



Map of Mouse Island

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Big Ice Lake | 21. Lake Lakelake |
| 2. Frozen Fur Peak | 22. Lake Lakelakelake |
| 3. Slipperyslopes Glacier | 23. Cheddar Crag |
| 4. Coldcreeps Peak | 24. Cannycat Castle |
| 5. Ratzikistan | 25. Valley of the Giant
Sequoia |
| 6. Transratania | 26. Cheddar Springs |
| 7. Mount Vamp | 27. Sulfurous Swamp |
| 8. Roastedrat Volcano | 28. Old Reliable Geyser |
| 9. Brimstone Lake | 29. Vole Vale |
| 10. Poopedcat Pass | 30. Ravingrat Ravine |
| 11. Stinko Peak | 31. Gnat Marshes |
| 12. Dark Forest | 32. Munster Highlands |
| 13. Vain Vampires Valley | 33. Mousehara Desert |
| 14. Goose Bumps Gorge | 34. Oasis of the
Sweaty Camel |
| 15. The Shadow Line Pass | 35. Cabbagehead Hill |
| 16. Penny Pincher Castle | 36. Rattytrap Jungle |
| 17. Nature Reserve Park | 37. Rio Mosquito |
| 18. Las Ratayas Marinas | |
| 19. Fossil Forest | |
| 20. Lake Lake | |



Dear mouse friends,
Thanks for reading, and farewell
till the next book.
It'll be another whisker-licking-good
adventure, and that's a promise!



Geronimo Stilton



GERONIMO STILTON



THEA



TRAP



BENJAMIN

Who is Geronimo Stilton?

That's me! I run a newspaper, but my true passion is writing adventure stories. Here in New Mouse City, the capital of Mouse Island, my books are all bestsellers! My stories are funny, fa-mouse-ly funny. They are whisker-licking-good tales, and that's a promise!

FIELD TRIP TO NIAGARA FALLS

Holey cheese, what an adventure! I was off to Niagara Falls on a field trip with my nephew Benjamin's class. It was a beautiful place — truly one of the most amazing sights I'd ever seen. But unfortunately, I was surrounded by mischievous young mouselets who seemed determined send me over the Falls in a barrel! Oh, would I ever make it back to Mouse Island alive?

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